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party
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ideas to
steal

summer entertaining

- + A modern menu & the perfect table
- + How to find all your gifts online
- + Your holiday hosting checklist

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Have a child friendly home that works for adults, too!

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The ultimate guide to celebrating Christmas in style

Ahead of the curve *Next-gen TVs*



Shaynna Blaze's
Block wrap-up



Builder Wayd's
reno advice





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- featured in logo: POLLY THE BUNNY \$22, HAMMIE THE HEN WHITE \$48.



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Brace yourselves... the relatives are coming

Hosting guests can be terrific and terrible in equal measure. At this time of year, there are many people who not predisposed to the condition find themselves taking deep breaths in the shed ("I'll be there in a second, Auntie Deb!"). But, family needs must, so like it or not, if Uncle Nick is staying for three days, you might as well be prepared.

I'm the kind of person who likes to pretend my home is a boutique hotel offering a turndown service complete with chocky on the pillow but if you're about to run for the shed, turn to page 82, where we give you a full run-down of how to prepare. You may not want to go the whole hog, but it'll certainly help you get some of the basics sorted.

Next up, planning for the big family lunch/dinner/whatever it is you do. Again, not one to 'share' responsibility (cough *control freak*), I'll be taking my cues this year from lovely food stylist and blogger Mish Lilley, who has put together a thoroughly modern menu on page 76. In the interest of keeping the new traditions coming, turn to page 68 for some fabulous table decoration inspiration.

On a sentimental note, this issue is the last of 2015 and what a year it's been. I know I've learned quite a lot, including the fact that it's OK to take on a new style of living including the gym/nutrition if, and only if, you don't bore people talking about it.

I've also learnt that you're only as good as the humans around you, and on that front, I'm very lucky. The *Inside Out* team is like no other you rock Inside Outies! Lastly, you, dear readers, are an inspiring bunch, so thanks for the posts, comments and likes. Merry Christmas!

PS. Have you sorted all your gifts yet? Ha! Me neither. For some savvy online planning, turn to page 84 where we round up the best places to shop it up on the web.

Claire



Follow me on Instagram @clairebradley_ed

tokens of joy

Be prepared for every visitor (even Santa!) with these last-minute gifts. These options are great for house guests, or for toasting your host at Christmas Day lunch.



Moët & Chandon 'Impérial Bubble Bath' champagne gift pack, \$107.99, Moët Hennessy, moët-hennessy-collection.com.au. 'Pudding' soaps, \$9 each, Vice & Velvet, viceandvelvet.com.au. 'Cities Collection Cannes' candle, \$20, Tända, tandamodern.com.

WIN!



WRITE IN TO WIN You could win a 'Blockwork' side table from West Elm, valued at \$349. Visit westelm.com.au for a further look. To enter, tell us, in 25 words or fewer, what new tradition you'll be introducing to Christmas this year. **TO ENTER** Send entries (with your contact details) to 'Inside Out West Elm' competition, Locked Bag 5030, Alexandria NSW 2015 or email insideout@news1td.com.au.



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our cover look

Thonet chairs, Bloom & Co, bloomandco.com.au. 'Le Corbusier' chair, Thonet, 1800 800 777. Tissue balls and fans, Poppies For Grace, poppiesforgrace.com. Jewel paper decorations, Lark, larkstore.com.au. Metal tree, Freedom, freedom.com.au. Bauble, Poppies For Grace, as before. Vase, Turner & Lane, (03) 9821 0012. Stockings, Lark, as before. Tablecloth, Fenton & Fenton, fentonandfenton.com.au. Cutlery, West Elm, westelm.com.au. Black bowl and platters, Country Road, countryroad.com.au. Mugs, Freedom, as before.

Photography: Mark Roper
Styling: Heather Nette King



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pinterest board

Pick up ideas from back issues on our Pinterest boards. Pictured is the 'Take A Bough' story from our Christmas 2008 edition. Styling by Glen Proebstel. Photography by Sam McAdam-Cooper.

tweet alert ★
 Here's a great cause – @EtsyAU teams up with @planaustralia for #makeforgood, to help lift girls out of poverty: etsy.me/makeforgood



bonus photographs

Want more of our cover home story on page 88? See other images of this Melbourne family home on our site. Styling by Heather Nette King. Photography by Mark Roper.

out and about with *Inside Out*



@chrisspackerart added a vivid jolt to @theotherartfairsydney.



Elegantly muted shibori bedlinen forms part of @sheridanaustralia's recent collection.



Great cookware in Cool Mint signals a bright future for @lecreusetau, which is now 90 years young.



At @clairebradley_ed's home, @tuxandsmeggy matches the @marikajarv artwork.

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WHEN IT COMES TO PICKING APPLIANCES FOR THE HUB OF YOUR HOME, THE ADVICE FROM KITCHEN EXPERTS FISHER & PAYKEL IS TO TAKE YOUR CUES FROM THE WAY YOU LIVE

If you're looking to create a space that leaves a stylish impression while ensuring it has all the elements that fit your lifestyle, Fisher & Paykel has the star ingredients for your kitchen makeover. Whether you're a foodie looking to kit out your cooking zone with the latest high-tech appliances or you're after reliability to manage a busy household, Fisher & Paykel has a range of smart appliances that allows you to design a kitchen to suit your needs.

When you set out to renovate or update a kitchen, there's a stack of decisions that need to be made - from the actual design of the space to selecting appliances. Fisher & Paykel takes the hard work out of the decision-making process by offering a line of modular appliances all designed to match each other, giving your kitchen a polished and streamlined aesthetic.

To create a super-functional kitchen, mix and match Fisher & Paykel appliances, from steam, gas, conventional or microwave ovens to gas and induction cooktops and more. For complete design freedom, you can place drawer-based appliances, such as the DishDrawer™ Dishwasher and CoolDrawer™ Multi-Temperature Drawer, anywhere in the space that's convenient for you.

Clockwise from top: Quality appliances, such as those from Fisher & Paykel, are key to creating your dream kitchen. Fisher & Paykel 76cm 11-function Pyrolytic Built-in Oven. Fisher & Paykel Double DishDrawer™ Dishwasher. Fisher & Paykel 30cm 2-zone 'Touch&Slide' Induction Cooktop matched with a 30cm 'Gas on Glass' Cooktop.



Fisher & Paykel

• For inspiration, ideas and kitchen case studies, visit fisherpaykel.com.au/designedtomatch

#twl

things
we
love

true colours Say bonjour to smart design en route from France

If you're not planning a trip to Paris anytime soon, you can still bring home chic style with the new range by French brand Hartô at Clickon Furniture. Clean lines teamed with a pop of colour and a hint of *je ne sais quoi* make the playful collection of furniture and accessories an easy addition to a living or dining space.

Hartô furniture, from \$416 for the 'Gustave' stool (below), Clickon Furniture, clickonfurniture.com.au.

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Greentterior - Plant-loving creatives and their homes **book** by Bart Kiggen & Magali Elali of Coffeeklatch, €39.95, Luster, coffeeclatch.be.

PP Møbler 'PP512' folding **chair**, \$10,410, Cult, cultdesign.com.au.

Ivy Muse x Design Twins 'Harlequin' **pot**, \$190, and 'Chameleon' **plant stand**, \$160, Ivy Muse, ivymuse.com.au.

Royal Oak Floors 'Architect Collection' American oak engineered **floorboards** in Danish White, from \$93.50/sqm, Harper & Sandilands, royaloakfloors.com.au.

'Camouflage' **cushion**, \$125, BoConcept, boconcept.com.au.

'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior **paints** in Poker Face and Temperate Tide, \$56.90/4L; and Mollusk Shell, \$60.90/4L, all British Paints, 132 525.

'Bronte' **sofa**, \$2995, Urban Couture Design + Homewares, urbancouture.com.au.

Santa & Cole 'Cestita' **lamp** by Miguel Milá, \$479, ECC Lighting + Furniture, ecc.com.au.

'Amelie' blanket-stitch **cushion**, \$145, Sage And Clare, sageandclare.com.

Crosshatched wood-fired **planter**, \$48, Mr Kitly, mrkitly.com.au.

'Pastel Elements' **rug** (70cm x 250cm), \$175, Arro Home, arrohome.com.

'Y 06' **chandelier**, \$4150, Douglas And Bec, douglasandbec.com.

ROOMS WE LOVE

urban jungle

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COMPILED BY JOSEPH GARDNER

PHOTOGRAPHY (MAIN) BART KIGGEN EXTRACT FROM GREENTRIOR - PLANT-LOVING CREATIVES AND THEIR HOMES BOOK BY COFFEEKLATCH (€39.95, LUSTER). PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

what's on our radar

Discover each month what's hot, what's on its way out and what designs continue to endure and inspire



CULT CLASSIC 'CRINOLETTE' ARMCHAIR BY ILMARI TAPIOVAARA

The form: A generous armchair with a dramatic curved back rail supported by numerous fine spindles. **What makes it special:** A modern variation of the traditional timber stick-back chairs found in England, America and parts of Europe, the Crinolette features a beautiful backrest that rolls over like a soft coat collar. The name of the chair comes from 'crinoline' – a structured petticoat designed to hold out a woman's skirt – a style that was popular in the mid- to late- 19th century. Tapiovaara had designed several chairs in the stick-back style by the time the Crinolette was created, including his well-known 'Mademoiselle' chair (also reissued by Artek). The 'Crinolette' armchair, designed in 1962, was a complex design with a more generous wrap-around form than any of its predecessors. Made from turned and steam-bent birch, the chair comes in white, black or a lovely shade of sage green. Black emphasises its shape and detail more distinctly, while white and green offer a softer expression. **Expect to pay:** \$2855. **Buy at:** Anibou, anibou.com.au.

TRENDING

What's in... monolithic

Sculptural, graphic and enduring, this is a look that's literally set in stone. 'The Basic Step' bookend, \$140, Marble Basics, marblebasics.com.au.



On its way out neon

The glow is wearing off this hyper-bright trend – those highlighter colours might be best kept for your pencil case or stationery drawer.



THE COOLEST THING WE'VE SEEN LATELY

The Rabbit Hole Organic Tea Bar in Sydney (therabbiithole.com.au) is so dedicated to its brews that it features a sculpture made from thousands of teabags, crafted by Chilean artist Valeria Burgoa.



65%

of Australians say when they hand out a present, they don't expect anything in return – according to research by etsy.com.au.



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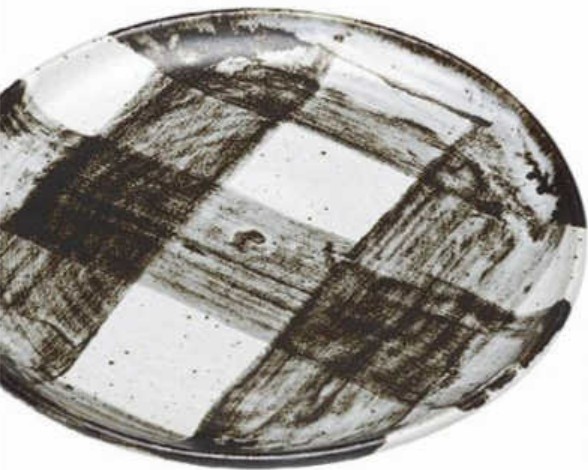
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painterly ceramics

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EDITED BY MATILDA DUFFECY



'Rust Gingham' platter

DESIGNER: Janetta Kerr-Grant

"There's a beautiful synchronicity between flowers, food and ceramics," says Janetta, a Melbourne-based ceramic artist who credits the appeal of her pieces to a unique combination of look and feel. "My work has a robust materiality with a graphic sense of design," she says. "I'm also particular about how it feels - I often use satin glazes as they create a sense of touch." The 'Rust Gingham' platter certainly owns this style, the bold motif cementing the platter's place as a centrepiece. But while Janetta uses this overarching approach to guide her collections, each piece requires a different tack. "Some wares will be hand-built, some will be thrown and surfaces may be painted, carved or inlaid," she explains. It's this attention to detail that makes Janetta's work stand out. \$120, [Mr Kitly, mrkitly.com.au](http://MrKitly.mrkitly.com.au). Visit janettakerrgrant.com.au.



'Blue Moon' platter

DESIGNER: Karen Morton of Kaz Ceramics

In Karen's four years as a full-time ceramicist, she's seen a cultural shift: "I believe that Australia has embraced 'handmade' wholeheartedly," she says. And so we should, given that it can take Karen nearly a year to perfect a new piece. "I usually make five masters, either on the wheel or by hand building, then make moulds in plaster from those masters," she says. "The plaster moulds can take up to three months to dry depending on the size." But despite this, Karen is quick to point out the reward for her hard work. "I love that my pieces are organic, precious but still functional, and that once they leave my studio they take on a life of their own." \$57, kazmorton.com.au.



'Flip Flop Slip Mountain Range' baking tray/platter

DESIGNERS: Harriet Watts, Ben Elbourne and Sarah Spackman of The Fortynine Studio

The 'Mountain Range' collection forms part of the team's 'Flip Flop Slip' offering, a name that alludes to the creative process. "We use a technique called flop moulding," says Harriet (pictured left). "We use a slab roller to get an even slab of clay. The pieces are shaped and dried over plaster moulds, flipped onto boards, finished and handpainted with slip mixture." That's not to say there isn't an element of good luck in the works. "Every time you turn on the kiln, you have a little quiet moment to hope that nothing goes wrong," says Harriet. The wonderfully raw finish on the platter is thanks to the hand-woven hemp that sits on the slab roller, giving each piece a slight variation and one-of-a-kind appeal. \$124, thefortynine.com.au.

A woman with long brown hair is sleeping peacefully in a bed. She is wearing a light blue tank top and is covered by a white duvet. Her head is resting on a white pillow, and her right arm is bent with her hand near her head. The bed has white linens and pillows. The lighting is soft and natural, creating a calm and cozy atmosphere.

*Beneath
every good
sleeper
is a great
mattress.*

Wake Up Wonderful

Forty
Winks



You have only 10 minutes to prepare a meal.

What's a good stand-by recipe? Once you master the art of the perfect omelette, you can create a delicious meal in a matter of minutes. I like to cook mine in ghee or butter, and fill it with plenty of fresh herbs, cheese and seasonal vegetables.

Which recipe of yours gets the most compliments? My slow-braised lentils with a rich tomato and preserved lemon sauce. You throw everything into a pot and let it simmer away. Even the most avid meat-eaters enjoy this dish!



Can you describe where you are based and where you update your blog? My family and I have recently purchased our first home, a small house surrounded in bush near the beach in West Auckland. Our little family has lived in eight houses, so it's a welcome relief to finally have a place that we can call ours! The kitchen is open plan and surrounded by big windows, which is a bonus for taking photos.

BLOGGER PROFILE

petite kitchen

THE STATS **What:** Petite Kitchen **Who:** Eleanor Ozich, cook and cafe co-owner **Where:** petite-kitchen.com
Started: 2012 **You'll find:** "My blog's point of difference is the emphasis on simplicity. I'm all about creating easy recipes using everyday ingredients. It's down-to-earth food that readers can make and enjoy on a daily basis."



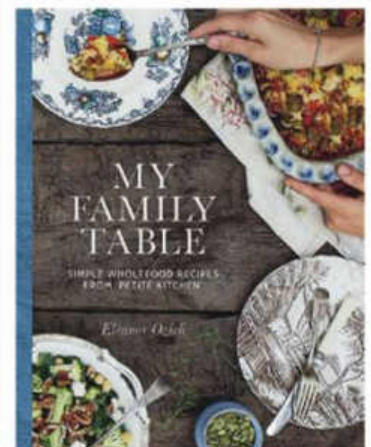
Was food always important to you?

I've always had a love for food and cooking. I grew up living above my parents' restaurant and was constantly surrounded by people who had a passion for good food. My sister and I spent a lot of time with my grandparents as my parents were quite busy with the restaurant. My grandma is an incredible cook, and my grandad grows all his own vegetables, herbs and fruit. It's super inspiring! And I confess, there's hardly a moment now when I'm not thinking about food.



Is there a dish that's eluded you for a long time? I have a recipe in my new book, *My Family Table* (\$39.99, Murdoch Books) for choc-coated rice puffs, which took me a little while to get right. I do have a tendency to burn things in the kitchen. I never use a timer (although I should)! Every time it happens, I get that look from my husband that says 'you have done it again!'. Each recipe has been tested on my family a handful of times. These meals are what I cook on a daily basis.

What ingredients are you enjoying experimenting with right now? I'm trying to introduce more vegetarian meals into our household, so I've been experimenting with beans and pulses. Tonight, I'm trying white coco beans!



For a list of some of our favourite blogs, visit our Pinterest page at pinterest.com/insideoutpins.

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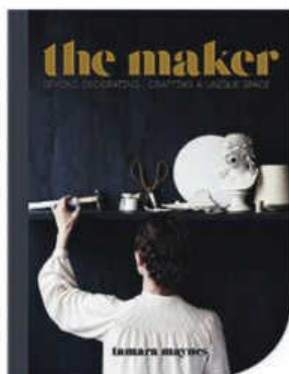
DESIGN PROFILE

Tamara Maynes

This lifelong crafter fully embraces the DIY approach and her new book takes this dedication to the next level

WORDS LEE TRAN LAM

In her book, *The Maker* (below), crafter Tamara Maynes (right) explores the value of handmade wares, such as this Bridget Bodenham mug (below right). The book also features DIY projects to try - this metalwork wallhanging (bottom right) is one example.



What inspired your love of creating? My beginnings as a maker were fostered through my parents. It was the start of the 1970s when they had me, and they were heavily involved in the resurgence of craft. My father's craft of choice was leatherwork while my mother excelled in patchwork and needlepoint. Our farmhouse was always buzzing with projects.

What did you start out making? It's my first foray into woodwork at 14 that stands out. It was a crude timber console to house my turntable and records. I managed to look beyond its bent nails, and fall for my first piece of furniture!

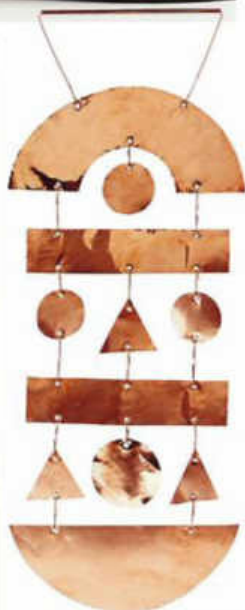
You cover a wide range of crafts - from rug hooking to leaded glasswork and wirework - in your book, *The Maker*. Is there another technique you'd love to master? I've tried most crafts mentioned in the book, except glass blowing and the more serious forms of metal and woodwork. My true love is sewing but considering I get excited at the thought of shopping for power saws, I think it's safe to say I'd love to expand on my woodwork skills!

Tell us about your connection to the items you create with. They're not only part of my livelihood, they're often part of my story. From my father's original leatherwork tools that I learnt to use and the '70s craft books my mother taught me from when I was a child, to a pair of dressmaking scissors handed down from my husband's grandmother - family and good memories are intertwined in every piece I make. My industrial sewing machine (pictured), a big old chunk of weathered metal that is ridiculously heavy, was bought for a song from a beautiful woman who used to sew for me 15 years ago. I think of her every time I sit and sew.

What's a good beginner-level project from your book?

And something that's more difficult, but worth the effort?

The no-fire clay vessel project is perfect for a beginner. All the tools required are likely to be found in your kitchen cupboards, while the feeling of working clay between your fingers is incredibly magical. The most tricky project in the book is the marquetry tabletop. Combining leather, plywood and cork, with the carpentry techniques of marquetry and parquetry, it requires a certain level of skill, dexterity, time and patience - but boy, is it a beauty!




***The Maker* (\$59.99, Murdoch Books) by Tamara Maynes is out now.**





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ask an expert

Each issue, we'll bring stylish solutions to all your decorating and design dilemmas from those in the know



Lisa Koehler is the interior decorator on our renovation specialists Panel (for more on the Panel, turn to page 138). Here, she advises on staying trendy yet 'green'.

Q *How do you incorporate slow design principles and sustainable design while keeping up to date with trends?*

@hayleycallaghan_ via Instagram

The key is choosing crafted pieces of furniture that will last a lifetime, and buying from furniture makers who consider the material source and impact of the design, such as Greg Hatton who creates this beautiful 'Beetle' stool (\$660, greghatton.com) and benches made from found branches (POA, greghatton.com). Also, add

in a few vintage or second-hand items to ensure your home has personality, while making use of what you already have. Keep up with what's happening by heading to local markets like The Finders Keepers (thefinderskeepers.com) to purchase homewares that are bespoke and small scale, yet available in colours and shapes that are on trend.



Q *I went for beige walls in the bedroom and beige carpet to go with them, but this was seven years ago. The carpet is good, but the walls must change and I'm loving dark colours. What are your thoughts?*

@kymbo_loyd via Instagram

"Beige is a colour that can have several undertones, so it's important to look at different options before deciding which one works," says **TV host, interior designer and Taubmans colour creative director, Shaynna Blaze**.

"Taubmans Pink Clay Pot (pictured bottom, \$61.90/4L, taubmans.com.au) is one of the trend colours right now, and is great with beige for a dramatic look.

If you prefer darker colours, try tones with a warm base, like Taubmans Slate Pebble (pictured top, \$61.90/4L, taubmans.com.au) or Soft Metallic (\$82.90/4L, taubmans.com.au), rather than those with a grey base."



Send us your questions via Facebook or Instagram or email insideout@news1ld.com.au.



designer tip
Don't be afraid to go bold with tiling, but keep the statement to one area for impact



Q *I'm planning a bathroom renovation and I want to use classic subway tiles. Should I tile every wall all the way to the ceiling or just the shower area and vanity splashback?* @runhappyllife via Instagram

Going for a uniform scheme on all walls has many advantages. "It will make the ceiling look higher," says **Christie Wood, communications and design specialist at Beaumont Tiles** (beaumont-tiles.com.au). It creates that modern vintage feel that uninterrupted subway tiles achieve and seems a lot cleaner and less cluttered than breaking up the interiors with other surfaces. It costs more, but Christie thinks it's worth the investment. However, if you like to paint, or change your wall colours regularly, you won't be able to do this with floor-to-ceiling tiles. "Tiling a shower cubicle and a splashback are the minimum requirements for waterproofing, as they are a high-risk area. The rest of the walls in a bathroom are considered low to medium risk. It's not all about the look and cost when choosing between tile and plasterboard for medium-risk walls," she says. "Let's compare it to buying a watch. If you had a choice of waterproof or water-resistant, which would you choose?"

Q *I'm moving and need info on kitchen essentials. What are handy tools and appliances that I will use?* Lia via email

"It's important to have good-quality knives and cookware they are basic tools you need," says **George Calombaris, chef and author of Greek** (\$59.99, Lantern/Penguin). "I have amazing Siemens appliances (siemens-home.com.au) at home and I also have a Thermomix (\$2089, thermomix.com.au) not essential, but if you can splurge, it's worth it. You only need three great knives, I use Global Knives (from \$169 each, globalknives.com.au) that do the trick. And I can't forget my morning coffee - I use an Espressotopia machine (from \$99, espressotopia.com)."



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COLOUR TREND

grey, green & white

Give your home a cool and calm look with soft chalky tones and a fresh hit of lush green

STYLING JOSEPH GARDNER

1. 'Interior Expressions' low sheen acrylic **paint** in Colleen's Cote, \$38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, haymespaint.com.au. **2.** 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior **paint** in Imperial Mist, \$56.90/4L, British Paints, 132 525. **3.** Hem 'Verso' **shelf** in Light Grey, \$675, District, district.com.au. **4.** 'Emerald Garden' **cushion**, \$47, The Club Of Odd Volumes, theclubofoddvolumes.com. **5.** 'Dudley' **bench** in Mist, from \$540, Middle Of Nowhere, middleofnowhere.com.au. **6.** 'Seb' **dining chair**, \$949, Jordan, jordan.com.au. **7.** 'Harrison' **sideboard**, \$4974, Jordan, as before. **8.** 'Ink' **trivet**, \$35, Zakkia, zakkia.com.au. **9.** 'Alfredo' **vase**, \$260, Georg Jensen, georgjensen.com. **10.** Nomess Copenhagen 'Display' **trays**, \$229.90/assorted set of 3, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au. **11.** Menu 'Bollard' **pendant lamp** in Ash, \$159, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au.

PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



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10

TOP 10 PICKS

pop art

You don't need an Andy Warhol soup can for this look! Here are 10 reasons to try this cheeky style

STYLING JOSEPH GARDNER

1. Herman Miller 'Marshmallow' sofa by George Nelson, from \$9500, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. 2. 'Visage' cushion, \$49.95, Kas Australia, kasaustalia.com.au. 3. 'FL/Y' suspension lamp in Transparent Petrol Blue, \$315, Kartell Sydney, (02) 8339 7505. 4. Doodad & Fandango 'Heel' earrings, \$80, Gorman, gormanshop.com.au. 5. 19 Greek Street 'Re-Imagined' chair, \$2255, Criteria, criteriacollection.com.au. 6. Marc Jacobs 'Mod Noir' eau de parfum, \$130/50ml, Sephora, sephora.com.au. 7. La Chance 'Rocky' credenza, \$5030, Living Edge, as before. 8. Foscariini 'Binic' table lamp in Yellow, \$235, Space Furniture, spacefurniture.com.au. 9. 'Lightning Bolt' mirror in Blue/Green/Lime Stripe, from \$75, Bride & Wolfe, brideandwolfe.com.au. 10. House Of Holland 'Lippy' sunglasses, \$225, Matchesfashion.com, matchesfashion.com.



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more give, less take

BEST BUYS

overnight bags

These designs will ensure it's easy for you to pack the essentials and make a quick getaway

STYLING JOSEPH GARDNER PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER

1. 'Diagonal Strap' bull denim gym bag in Dark Wash/Natural, \$76, American Apparel, americanapparel.com.au. 2. Weekend handler bag in Navy Nappa leather, \$800, A-esque, a-esque.com. 3. State Of Escape neoprene carry all, \$299, exclusive to Bassike, bassike.com. 4. 'Cosmos Eclipse' neoprene tote in Navy, \$230, Witu, witu.com.au. 5. & 6. Il Bisonte 'A2013' triangle leather duffel bag, \$1469, and Bonastre 'G19' leather duffel bag in Blue, \$1869, Hunt Leather, huntleather.com.au. 7. PB 01110 'AB8' linen and leather weekender bag, \$630, Bloodorange, bloodorange.com.au. 8. Suede weekender bag in Caramel, \$299, The Goods, thegoodsco.com.au. 'Interior Expressions' low sheen acrylic paint in Debonair, \$38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, haymespaint.com.au. Rapp 'Zenith Trail' scarf, \$195, Skarfe, skarfe.com. 'Hollywood Pool' sunglasses, \$349, Karen Walker Eyewear, karenwalker.com. Other props, stylist's own.



STYLING ASSISTANCE: RORY CARTER AND NASIA SYRAKIS. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



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bar carts

Invite the thrill of cocktail hour to your place and raise a toast to these designer trolleys

STYLING JOSEPH GARDNER PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER

From left to right: 'Terrance' bar cart, \$455, Bowerhouse, bowerhouse.com.au. Vintage '60s Parker drinks trolley, \$395, Vampt Vintage Design, vamptvintagedesign.com. Artek 'Tea Trolley 900' cart, \$4510, Anibou, anibou.com.au. Casamania 'Chariot' trolley, \$3364.90, Cafe Culture + Insitu, cafeultureinsitu.com.au. Elmo 'Senna' cart, \$730, Exhibit Interiors, exhibitinteriors.com.au. 'Ritz' drinks trolley, \$289, Freedom, freedom.com.au. Tom Dixon 'Form' caddy and milk jug, \$115 each; sugar bowl and spoon, \$140/set; water jug, \$210; bowl, \$230/assorted set of 5; all Dedecor, dedecor.com. 'Mad Men Holloway' tumblers, \$299/pair; 'Rebel' decanter in Amber, \$149; 'Mad Men Circon' decanter, \$499; all Waterford Crystal, waterfordcrystal.com.au. Noritake 'Speedy' tumblers in Amber, from \$95/set of 6, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. 'Sanela' curtains in Turquoise, \$99/pair, IKEA, ikea.com.au. 'Vintage Tiles #14' wallpaper, \$123.50/lineal metre, Emily Ziz Style Studio, emilyziz.com.

we love

STYLING ASSISTANCE: RORY CARTER AND NASIA SYRAKIS



IN GOOD TASTE

Rachel's Gourmet Greek Dessert Yoghurt

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3 KEY PIECES

pony lover

Here's the prized room to go with the horse your eight-year-old girl has always wanted

STYLING **PHOEBE McEVOY** PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM McADAM-COOPER**



1 A whimsical print showcasing her favourite animals will capture her imagination. Choose a piece that complements the bedroom's colour palette. *Winter Wonderland print* by Kevin Russ (1080mm x 780mm), \$520, Nathan + Jac, nathanjac.com.au.



“Use natural materials, such as timber and leather, to harness a more rustic feel”

PHOEBE McEVOY, STYLIST

2 Strong and sturdy, this bed is just the thing for crashing in after a day of horseriding. It also comes with a trundle bed, so pony club pals can stay over. ‘StoraBed’ **king single and trundle bed** (trundle not shown), \$999, Freedom, freedom.com.au.



‘Hide’ leather **pendant light**, from \$390, Anaesthetic, anaestheticdesign.com.



Leather **camping stool**, \$210, Lightly, lightly.com.au.



‘PS 2014’ **wall rail**, \$9.99, and **knobs**, \$10/assorted set of 4, IKEA, ikea.com.au.



3 A soft floor rug makes the perfect arena for pony figurines to be put through their paces. The tones in this Moroccan number lift the room's earthy base colours. Vintage Moroccan Beni Mguild **rug** (290cm x 190cm), \$2800, Kulchi, kulchi.com.



THE STORAGE

Mucking out stables means dirty jodhpurs and shirts – get them ready to wash in this piece, or use it to store toys. Steele Canvas for Industrie ‘Removable-Style Truck’ **hamper**, \$479.95, Steele Canvas, steelecanvas.com.au.



AND THE REST... **On bed:** Cream **rosette** with pink centre, \$130, Skinny Wolf. ‘Tan Spot’ **pillowcase**, \$75/pair, Fictional Objects. Linen **pillowcase** and **quilt cover** in Dusk, \$185/single (part of set), and linen **flat sheet** in Blush, \$195/single (part of set), Cultiver. Huis ‘Woolfelt’ **cushion** in Ochre, \$145, Lightly. ‘Dark Forest’ **throw**, \$220/king single, Pony Rider. Washed velvet **quilted throw** in Mustard, \$159, Citta Design. Children’s linen **fitted sheet** in Wham White, \$130/single, Major Minor Sydney. **On wall:** Ledge and brace **door**, \$140, Chippendale Restorations. ‘Lil Chief’ and ‘Lil X’ **flags**, \$29 each, Pony Rider. **Coat rack**, \$450, Mark Tuckey. **Horseshoe**, \$5, Mitchell Road Antique & Design Centre. ‘Wild Heart Wreath’ **plaque** by Hello Little Birdie and Zilvi, \$35, Zilvi. Jodz ‘Deluxe’ **helmet**, \$179.95, Horseland. **On floor:** ‘Hay_Stak 2’ hay-filled **ottoman**, \$95 (hay not included), QueenSo. Vintage **trophy**, \$220, Seasonal Concepts. Dublin ‘Universal’ **jodhpur boots**, \$49.95, Horseland. ‘Monte #3’ **cushion**, \$175, Pampa. Breyer ‘Cloud Challenge’ **horse figurines**, \$59.95/assorted set of 4, Horseland. Evie wears Little Remix Jr ‘Nice’ **shirt**, \$139, Kido Store, and ‘Camden’ **leggings**, \$44.95, Pavement. Background in ‘Eggshell Acrylic’ **paint** in a custom colour, \$43.20/1L, Porter’s Paints. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 165

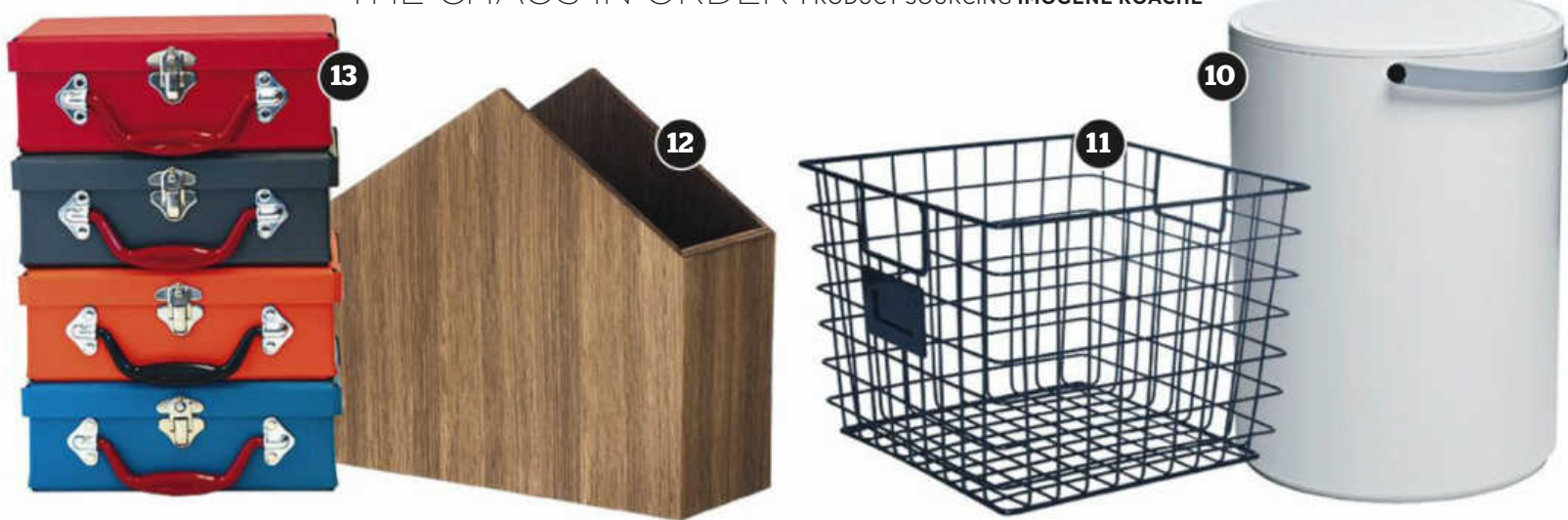
STYLING ASSISTANCE: SINEAD AMBROSE AND MEREY BARRETT. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION. *THIS IMAGE IS SHOT IN A STUDIO AND SHOULD SERVE AS GENERAL INSPIRATION ONLY. CONSIDER WHETHER THESE PRODUCTS ARE SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHILD BEFORE PURCHASING



20 ideas for KIDS' STORAGE

IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES UNTIL THERE'S THE MESS TO DEAL WITH. THESE OPTIONS WILL KEEP THE CHAOS IN ORDER

PRODUCT SOURCING **IMOGENE ROACHE**



1. 'Palafitt' 2-door wood **storage unit**, POA, Seletti, seletti.com.au. 2. 'Store-It' **cubby**, \$399, Pottery Barn Kids, potterybarnkids.com.au. 3. Hanging **bookcase**, \$375, Plyroom, plyroom.com.au. 4. 'Splice' **basket** in Yellow, \$79.95, Freedom, freedom.com.au. 5. 'Store 2 Shelf 1' **storage unit**, \$99, Freedom, as before. 6. Brikbag 'Busy City' Lego **playmat** in Yellow, \$54.95, Treetop Toy Shop via Tini Trader, tinitrader.com.au. 7. One Two Tree 'My Treasure Board' **display shelf**, \$165, Kido Store, kidostore.com. 8. 'Monty' dress-up **stand**, from \$200, Monty Tribe, montytribe.com.au. 9. 'Knagglig' pine **box**, \$14.99, IKEA, ikea.com.au. 10. Design Letters **storage stool** with grey handle, \$325, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au. 11. 'Berk' **basket** in Blue, \$34.95, Freedom, as before. 12. Ferm Living wooden **magazine holder**, \$69, Urban Couture Design + Homewares, urbancouture.com.au. 13. 'Mini' **cases**, \$45 each, Trunk & Orderly, trunkandorderly.com.au.



SMALL STORAGE

14. Lucie Kass For Bordfolk 'Girl Rose' **pencil holder**, \$59.95, Talo Interiors, talointeriors.com.au. **15.** Menu 'Phold OI' **container**, \$34.95, Resident GP, residentgp.com.au. **16.** Design Letters 'W' **cup** by Arne Jacobsen, \$20, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au. **17.** Maple wood **desk organiser**, \$115, Down That Little Lane, downthatlittellane.com.au. **18.** Bloomingville wood **storage boxes** in Mint/Grey, \$155/assorted set of 4, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au. **19.** Swedish **storage solution**, from \$395, Plyroom, plyroom.com.au. **20.** House Doctor **storage boxes**, \$69.95/assorted set of 2, Luumo Design, luumodesign.com.au.



domestic BLISS

KIDS, CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT THEM... BUT YOU CAN HAVE AN ELEGANT AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOME. THE BLOGGER BEHIND *DESIGN MOM* SHOWS YOU HOW IN HER NEW BOOK WORDS **GABRIELLE STANLEY BLAIR**

1

aim for function + beauty

Think of the teapot you use. It does its job well, seems to get prettier with age and makes you happy. Your goal for any object in your home is for high function + high beauty.

With low beauty + high function, it might be something like an ugly showerhead that has the perfect water pressure. Design isn't some froufrou gloss or shiny veneer on life—it's insisting on a solution (preferably an elegant one) and working carefully to make sure that solution works within whatever constraints you have—architectural, financial, or the fact that children live in your home.





2

your coolest toys can live in the living room

Our living room isn't a playroom and, as a general rule, our toys live elsewhere. But it's a good policy to make a few exceptions. Look for toys that are as sophisticated as they are fun – toys that draw in adults just as easily as kids. I favour a basket of wood blocks, painted or natural; a set of building cards designed by Charles and Ray Eames; and classic dominoes.

3

walls are made to be broken (unless they're load-bearing, that is!)

When we bought our house, there was space for just one cook in the kitchen. I would be alone while all the conversations were happening on the other side of the wall. We needed to remove that wall. From the very first evening, our family dynamic improved! We could have conversations again and work together much more easily.



4

start a family collection

Someday, your child will be standing somewhere in the world, and they'll catch sight of something that will remind them of home. There might be a gasp as your child time-travels straight back to a shelf where you kept your family collections. There's something important about the things we choose to carry through life. They're a message to your children about what inspires you.



This is an edited extract from *Design Mom – How to Live with Kids: A Room-By-Room Guide* by Gabrielle Stanley Blair (\$59.95, Artisan Books/Hardie Grant Books). Copyright © 2015.



inside the room

Find *all the style details* you need to get these looks from *The Block*



KINGI & CARO

WINNER!

'Store It' **baskets**, \$109/pair,
Freedom, freedom.com.au.



Marble **cheese board**,
\$35, Weylandts,
weylandts.com.au.



+



'Tobie' **bar stool** in Natural Elm,
\$199, Schots, schots.com.au.



LUKE & EBONY

+



'Tilla' timber **handles** in Copper &
Black, POA, The Good Guys Kitchens,
kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au.



Electrolux 'ESE7007BF'
side-by-side **fridge**
\$5009, The Good Guys,
thegoodguys.com.au.

Ocean Deep **print**, \$399,
Freedom, freedom.com.au.



+

Oliveri 'Vilo' pull-out **mixer**, \$999,
The Good Guys, as before.



reveals

PRODUCT SOURCING **LIANA HAKIM**



Marble **mortar and pestle**, \$55, Weylandts, as before.

Oliveri 'Santorini Vilo' pull-out **mixer**, \$1299, The Good Guys, as before.



'Arc Bamboo Unidic' **flooring** in Australiana, from \$69/sqm, Carpet Court, carpetcourt.com.au.



Fisher & Paykel 'CG905DNGGB1' 90cm gas **cooktop**, \$1399, The Good Guys, thegoodguys.com.au.



Oliveri 'Santorini' granite **sink**, \$999, The Good Guys, as before.



'Jett' **bowl** in Midnight Blue, \$5.95, Freedom, as before.



De'Longhi 'Eletta' **coffee machine**, \$1599, The Good Guys, as before.



THINGS WE LOVE



WHITNEY & ANDY

'Ando 1' **pendant light**, \$189, Beacon Lighting, beaconlighting.com.au.



Smeg 'TRA90BL' 90cm dual-fuel **cooker**, \$4999, The Good Guys, thegoodguys.com.au.

'Antique Brown Bar' **handles**, POA, The Good Guys Kitchens, kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au.



De'Longhi 'Brilliante' **toaster**, \$139, The Good Guys, as before.



SUZI & VONNI

Silestone 'Helix Suede Effect' 50mm **quartz surface**, POA, The Good Guys Kitchens, kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au.



De'Longhi 'Brilliante' **kettle**, \$119, The Good Guys, thegoodguys.com.au.



Schweigen 'IS4110SP' 90cm canopy **rangehood**, \$3369, The Good Guys, as before.



DEAN & SHAY

'Tuileries' **vase**, from \$18.95, Freedom, freedom.com.au.



Ferm Living brass **tray**, \$89, Norsu Interiors, norsu.com.au.



'Ballina' **melamine surface** in Natural Oak (used on doors), POA, The Good Guys Kitchens, kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au.



General Eclectic 'Black Crosses' **teatowel**, \$12.95, Zest Products, zestproducts.com.au.



'LEDlux Infinity Mini 700' dimmable round **downlight kit**, \$54.95, Beacon Lighting, beaconlighting.com.au.



Samsung 'SRS636SCLS' side-by-side **fridge**, \$3899, The Good Guys, as before.



'Rani' **serving board**, \$39.95, Freedom, freedom.com.au.



'Signature' **bar stool**, \$229, Freedom, as before.



Bosch 'PIN675N17E' 60cm induction **cooktop**, \$2399, The Good Guys, as before.



'Host' **mortar and pestle**, \$39.95, Freedom, freedom.com.au



'LEDlux Infinity Mini 700' dimmable square **downlight kit**, \$59.95, Beacon Lighting, beaconlighting.com.au.



Samsung 'SRF719DLS' side-by-side **fridge**, \$3899, The Good Guys, thegoodguys.com.au.



'Anodised Bar' **handles**, POA, The Good Guys Kitchens, as before.



Silestone 40mm **quartz surface** in Cemento Spa, POA, The Good Guys Kitchens, as before.



judges' verdict the top three

Neale and Shaynna reflect on this series of *The Block*, recalling the panoramic highs, the inevitable lows and how they really thought the contestants went

the view Of all of the series of *The Block* that I've judged, this was one of the most challenging. The octagonal building posed problems for the contestants, but how many times did we have to remind them that these apartments were all about 'the view'? The dress-circle location on the city fringe, the building's height and the 360-degree layout gave these properties an unprecedented opportunity to bring Manhattan-style living to the heart of Melbourne. Even from level one, the views were magnificent. Yet we were constantly having to remind the couples of the advantage they had right outside their windows. Caro and Kingi decided nobody would be interested in their lower-level panorama (wrong!), so they orientated their living room away from it; Luke and Ebony, and Suzi and Vonni did the same to a lesser degree. Even Shay and Dean in the penthouse took a huge gamble putting their living room where everyone else had a kitchen – and diminishing the view in the process.

continuity This was the series when it really struck us that the couples were turning to social media for inspiration. Nothing wrong with that you might think, except that the continuity suffered. With several of the couples, I felt that inspiration for a certain room had come from one moodboard, while the next part was inspired by another, and so on. The result was that the rooms of some of the apartments felt unrelated. Andrew and Whitney were particularly guilty – the styling of their rooms was disjointed and disconnected. Luke and Ebony also struggled but managed to pick themselves up.

location, location, location How to appeal to your potential market? That problem was never more evident than in this building where affluent South Yarra meets gritty Prahran. Going too urban could alienate the more conservative South Yarra buyer, while the apartments also needed to appeal equally to the younger, cooler Prahran dweller. The apartments were always going to command a heavy price tag, so the quality and style of the renovations had to reflect that. Designing quality apartments as the weeks go by is always a challenge for the contestants, but never more so than in this series where the spaces were large and the stakes high.



The Block judge and editor-in-chief of *Vogue Living*, Neale Whitaker. Follow him on Instagram and Twitter: @nealewhitaker



The Block judge and interior designer, Shaynna Blaze. Follow her on Instagram and Twitter: @shaynna blaze

the octagon The shape of this building and its position in Melbourne combine to make it unique. The headaches produced by the shape of the rooms meant the couples had to be at their most creative in their design solutions, not only to make their apartment stand out, but to make sense. The awkward 'wedge' floorplan turned the traditional layout on its head and, when you have couples who haven't renovated before, the stress was pretty monumental. The pay-off, of course, lies in the spectacular views the finished building captures, embracing the most incredible skyline of Melbourne over Fawkner Park.

resilience What I loved about the contestants was their attitude of never giving up, even when it seemed as if everything was stacked against them. Andrew and Whitney appeared destined never to get there; while it wasn't until the halfway point of the series that Ebony and Luke found their style. But once these couples worked out their direction, they gained momentum at the right time to see them through to the end. Caro and Kingi were the bridesmaids this series, but their commitment to quality and consistency makes this a very good apartment. Suzi and Vonni had fun the whole time (sometimes to the detriment of the design), but clicked back into business mode to tie the apartment together.

experimentation A rational way to approach the properties was something Neale, Darren and I agreed on very early in the game: apartment one was for people who like to go to edgy clubs; apartment three was for the professionals who enjoy bar entertaining; and the penthouse was for the people who own the clubs. This was an exciting series to judge as every apartment had its own unique look. Bold colour, new surfaces and technology made each reveal a welcome surprise.

In *The Block* terms, there's little better than one of us saying, "I've never seen that before!"

Andrew and Whitney's living room. Right: Shay and Dean's outdoor terrace.



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PREVIOUS PAGE: Capri **daybed**, \$2399; Riviera square stripe **cushion** in lemon, \$59.95; Riviera square plain **cushion** in lemon, \$54.95; Strokes **cushion** in lemon, \$64.95; Jasmine **table**, set of 2, \$329.95; Macedon copper and metal **bowl**, set of 3, \$84.95; Organic round large **bottle**, \$99; Egan glass **jars**, small, \$6.95, large, \$8.95; Anywhere tonal stripes **rug** in ivory and white, \$499.

LEFT: Sleek high dining **table**, \$1299; Sleek high dining **benches**, \$499 each; Riviera stripe **cushion** in green, \$54.95; Tyler **pot** (on table) in white, small, \$34.95; Boston fern in white **pot** (on table), \$19; large bamboo **bowl** in grey, \$29.95; Corsica acrylic rim **tumblers**, \$9.95 each; Pandora **hanging basket**, large, \$24.95; Beaded **hanging baskets**, small, \$59.95, large, \$79.95.

BELOW: Tobi 3 piece **dining setting**, \$1699; Structure large **vase** in matte green, \$79.95; Art Hive narrow **vase** in matte yellow, \$45; Art narrow **vase** in matte green, \$39.95; Angela small **bottle vase** in mint, \$59.95; Flora **tumblers** in clear, \$7.95 each; Melamine shallow **bowl** in mint, \$34.95; Maya **cushion** in green, \$39.95; Jaryn large **planter** in grey (in corner), \$499.95; Mother Tongue large **pot plant**, \$199.95; Agave **potted plant** (in front), \$145.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Cube modular **sofa**, \$4999; cushions, from left: Resort Tea Leaves **cushion**, \$44.95; Pacific Landscape **cushion** in green, \$69.95; Resort Tweet **cushion**, \$54.95; London round coffee **table**, \$399; Zagora aluminium **tray**, \$119.95; Revive 1.5L drink **bottle** in pale green, \$17.95; Revive **glass** in pale green, \$7.95; Anywhere bold stripes **rug** in charcoal and white, (170x240cm) \$180, (220x320cm) \$295; Carbine resin trunk **stool**, \$239; Temple **lantern** (in front), small, \$39.95; Desert **lantern**, \$89.95; Rimini outdoor **umbrella** in dove grey, \$999.



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ABOVE: Sorento 3-seater **sofa**, \$2799; Sorento rocker **chair**, \$749; Sorento lounge **chair**, \$599; Cora jute **cushion** in sand (on rocker), \$44.95; cushions on sofa, from left: Cora jute linen **cushion** in turquoise, \$54.95; Cora jute **cushion** in white, \$44.95; Jute stripe rectangular **cushion** in turquoise, \$54.95; Explorer side **tables** in white, small, \$149 each; Flora **tumblers** in blue, \$7.95 each; Santorini stripe teardrop **vase** in navy and teal, \$49.95; Atlantico blue **cafe bowl**, \$21.95; Dracena **potted plant**, \$159.95; Agave **potted plant**, \$145; Anywhere bold stripes **rug** in blue and white, (170x240cm) \$180, (220x320cm) \$295.

LEFT: Rope egg **chair**, \$1299; Entangled **cushion** in indigo/white, \$69.95; Luka **cushion** in navy, \$89.95; London round side **table**, \$299; Apsley glass hurricane **lanterns** (on table), small, \$39.95, large, \$74.95; Flora **tumbler** in blue, \$7.95 each; Jaryn small **planter** in grey, \$329.95.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Capri extension dining **table** in natural, \$2999; Capri dining **chairs** in natural, \$179 each; Artena dining **chairs** in white, \$219 each; large drop **bottle** in petrol, \$59; Agave **potted plant**, \$29.95; Fiji wine **glasses** in blue, \$9.95 each; Leopold glass hurricane **lanterns**, small, \$24.95, large, \$39.95.



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LEFT: Victoria rocker **chair** in white, \$549; Skat carver **chair** in orange, \$79; Rosy dining **chair** in taupe (on table), \$129; Rosy square folding **table** in taupe, \$299; Stax round flip-top dining **table** in orange, part of a 5-piece set, \$199; Stax **chairs** in white (stacked), \$69 each.

BELOW: Buffalo **sofa**, \$1799; Buffalo **armchair**, \$899; Luka **cushion** in orange (on armchair), \$89.95; cushions on sofa, from left: Claudia **cushion** in orange, \$69.95; Gelati **cushion** in coral/slate/orange, \$79.95; Explorer small side **table** in charcoal, \$149; Corsica acrylic rim **tumbler** (on side table), \$9.95 each; London oval concrete coffee **table**, \$599; Sage **potted plant**, \$89.95; Sierra oak base glass **hurricane**, \$59.95; Corsica acrylic rim **jug**, \$29.95; Anywhere tonal stripes **rug** in charcoal and white, \$499.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Buffalo dining **table** in Acacia, \$1499; Fior outdoor wicker tub **chairs**, \$549 each; Atlantico **pitcher** in red, \$59.95; Base **cake stand**, \$10; Corsica acrylic rim wine **glasses**, \$11.95 each; White House side **plates**, \$8.95 each; White House dinner **plates**, \$9.95 each; Simplicity 56-piece **cutlery set**, \$229.95; Boxwood **plant** round (at rear), \$19.95; extra-large treasure **bottle** in white, \$129; Lanterns, stylist's own.



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bold
& beautiful



merry
bright &





classic &
refined







bold & beautiful

table detail (above)

'Atelier Bold Studio' **vase**, \$320, Dinosaur Designs, dinosaurdesigns.com.au. **All flowers**, Mr Cook, mrcook.com.au. 'Marigold Magic T41' **teapot**, \$65; 'White Luscious' **teacup**, \$65/set (saucer not shown); 'Marigold Magic T41' **teacup and saucer**, \$28, all T2, t2tea.com. 'Cloud' **bowl**, \$180, Dinosaur Designs, as before. Background in 'Jewels' cotton/canvas **fabric**, \$182/m, Edit Group, edit-group.com.au.

opening table detail

'Rebel' **martini glass**, \$69.95, Waterford Crystal, waterfordcrystal.com.au. **Star sculpture**, \$69, West Elm, westelm.com.au. 'Mad Men Holloway' **tumbler**, \$299/pair, Waterford Crystal, as before. **Margarita glass**, \$70/set of 6, Williams Sonoma, williamssonoma.com.au. 'Shell' **tray**, \$200, Conley & Co, (02) 8065 9411. Aerin 'Malachite' floral **dishes**, \$345/assorted set of 3, Becker Minty, beckerminty.com. 'Flip Flop Slip' oval **platter** in Pink & White, \$95, The Fortynine Studio, thefortynine.com.au. **Sweets**, stylist's own. L'Americano 'Tuscany' brushed-gold **cutlery**, \$130/assorted set of 5, Coco Republic, cocorepublic.com.au.

party scene

Flat **tinsel**, \$15/3m, Papier D'Amour, papierdamour.com.au. **Boxes**, stylist's own. 'Marigold Magic' **teapot**, \$65, T2, t2tea.com. Toni Maticevski & Dinosaur Designs **cuff**, \$410, Dinosaur Designs, dinosaurdesigns.com.au. 'Aztec Fiesta' **napkin**, \$19.95/set of 4, Crave Wares, cravewares.com.au. 'Carnivale' **cake**, from \$340, Mielikki Catering, mielikki.squarespace.com. Tom Dixon 'Stone' **cake stand**, \$275, Dedecor+, dedecorplus.com. Nachtmann 'Prezioso' **tumbler**, \$139.95, Riedel, riedelglass.com.au. 'Honeycomb' **paper tree**, \$39.95, Ruby Star Traders, rubystartraders.com.au. Jonathan Adler 'Nixon' **table**, \$4595, and 'Rider' **chair**, \$1295, Coco Republic, as before. **Hat**, \$3, Papier D'Amour, as before. Toni Maticevski & Dinosaur Designs **bangles** in Charcoal & Pink, \$150 each, Dinosaur Designs, as before.



merry & bright

table detail (above)

'Dressed Up Rhombus' **glass**, \$18.95, Villeroy & Boch, villeroy-boch.com.au. Agate **coasters**, \$143/set of 4, Fond Industries, fondindustries.com. 'Hybrid Raissa' **cake stand**, \$165, Seletti, seletti.com.au. **Donuts** and **ice tongs**, stylist's own. Linen **tablecloth** in Charcoal, \$189/300cm x 170cm, Crave Wares, cravewares.com.au.

party scene

By Lassen 'Kubus' copper **bowl**, from \$239.80, Fred International, fredishere.com.au. **Sweets**, stylist's own. Green **vase** by Daimon Downey, \$2000, MCM House, mcmhouse.com. 'Ode (Celestial)' **vessel**, \$480, Alana Wilson, alanawilson.com. Serax copper **tray**, \$164.95, Beautiful Spaces - Inside & Out, beautiful-spaces.com.au. Jonathan Adler **horn ornament**, \$1595, Coco Republic, cocorepublic.com.au. 'Toiletpaper Rose' **plate**, \$70, Seletti, seletti.com.au. **Books**, stylist's own. Jonathan Adler 'Globo' **box**, from \$225, Coco Republic, as before. Foil **star decoration**, \$10.95, Ruby Star Traders, rubystartraders.com.au. Jansen + Co **candleholders**, from \$57.50 each, Beautiful Spaces - Inside & Out, as before. **Decanter** in Pink Cadillac, \$480, Conley & Co, (02) 8065 9411. 'Double Ring' glass **vase**, \$195, The Country Trader, thecountrytrader.com.au. Crystal **martini glass**, \$129, Becker Minty, beckerminty.com. Fishes Eddy gilded **tray**, \$79, West Elm, westelm.com.au. 'Ottaviana' **pitcher**, \$110, Conley & Co, as before. Roberts Confectionery **foil wrapper**, \$7.50/pack of 4, The Essential Ingredient, essentialingredient.com.au. 'Hayman' linen **throw** in Blush, \$137, Linen & Moore, linenmoore.com.au. Linen **tablecloth** in Mouse Grey, \$289/400cm x 170cm, Crave Wares, cravewares.com.au. Design Kiosk 'Lily' **sofa** in Blush, \$3190, Project 82, project82.com.au. **Table** and **gold panel**, stylist's own. Background in 'Murowash' acrylic **paint** in Emerald, \$101/4L, Murobond, murobond.com.au.



classic & refined

table detail (above)

'Half Merkaba' **sculptures**, \$525/assorted pair, Becker Minty, beckerminty.com. 'Check' **tumblers**, \$35 each, and Cire Trudon 'Marie-Antoinette' **candle**, \$195, The Country Trader, (02) 9698 4661. 'The Botanist' **plant hanger**, from \$120, Fifteenthirtyeight, fifteenthirtyeight.com. Scandic **vase**, \$28.95, Ruby Star Traders, (02) 9518 7899. 'Plaster Ceiling' **tablecloth**, \$210, and background in 'Sliding Door' **wallpaper**, \$89/sqm, Kerrie Brown, (02) 9386 1738.

party scene

Welton London **candle** in Onyx No.6, \$199, Darcy & Duke, darcyandduke.com.au. 'Hybrid Isuara' **plate**, \$90, Seletti, seletti.com.au. *The Arborist* **sculpture**, \$90, and 'The Conformist' **plant stand**, \$150, Fifteenthirtyeight, fifteenthirtyeight.com. 'Il' **vessel**, \$820, Alana Wilson, alanawilson.com. **Urn**, \$550, The Country Trader, (02) 9698 4661. 'Dolce Vita' **glass**, \$28, Conley & Co, (02) 8065 9411. 'Picnic Crystal' **wine glass**, \$28, The Country Trader, as before. **Napkin**, \$22.95/set of 4, Crave Wares, cravewares.com.au. 'Flip Flop Slip' salad **bowl**, \$85, The Fortynine Studio, thefortynine.com.au. Ruinart **champagne rosé**, \$112.49, Moët Hennessy, 1800 554 100. 'L'Esclave' **candle**, US\$175, Cire Trudon, ciretrudon.com. Christian Lacroix 'Eygallieres' **candle**, \$119, and 'Nuit Gitane' **candle**, \$99, Darcy & Duke, as before. 'Dolce Vita' **champagne flute**, \$28, Conley & Co, as before. 'Kiki' **chair**, \$690, MCM House, mcmhouse.com. Hansk 'Rainbow' **chair**, POA, Project 82, project82.com.au. 'Louis XVI-Style' **armchair**, \$3800, Conley & Co, as before. **Sculpture**, \$40, Fifteenthirtyeight, as before.

table detail (opposite)

Clockwise from top: 'Dolce Vita' **dessert bowl**, \$35, Conley & Co, (02) 8065 9411. **Cutlery**, stylist's own. 'Picnic Crystal' **champagne flute**, \$28, The Country Trader, (02) 9698 4661. Serax 'Speckle' **plates**, from \$54.95 each, Beautiful Spaces - Inside & Out, (02) 9310 7776. 'Flip Flop Slip' **bowl**, \$28, The Fortynine Studio, thefortyninestudio.com.au. **10**

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RECIPES & FOOD STYLING **MISH LILLEY** STYLING **HEATHER NETTE KING** PHOTOGRAPHY **MARK ROPER**



Chilled avocado & basil soup

Opposite: Gold flatware **cutlery**, \$49/assorted set of 5, West Elm. 'Tam' dip **bowls**, \$795 each, Country Road. 'Table Series' **side plates**, \$20 each, The Shelley Panton Store. **Napkins**, stylist's own. Bedouin Societe **flat sheet** (used as tablecloth), \$320, Fenton & Fenton. **This page:** 'Nima' **platter**, \$29.95, Country Road. Mud Australia soup **bowls**, \$36.95 each, Turner & Lane. 'Delight' **tea mug**, \$16.95/pair, Freedom. **Cutlery and tablecloth**, as before. Honeycomb **tissue balls and fans**, from \$4 each, Poppies For Grace. **Metal tree**, \$49.95, Freedom. **All other props**, stylist's own. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 165





Crunchy rainbow slaw



chilled avocado & basil soup

SERVES 6

250g raw cashews, soaked

3 cups chilled water

1½ cups fresh basil leaves

120g baby spinach

2 medium avocados

1 garlic clove

Juice of 1 lime

Radish, julienned, and snow pea sprouts, to garnish

1. Place cashews in a glass or ceramic bowl. Cover with tap water. Soak for 2 hours. Drain cashews. Rinse under cold water. Drain.
2. Place cashews and chilled water in a blender. Blend until almost smooth. Add basil, spinach, avocado, garlic and lime juice. Season generously with salt. Blend until completely smooth.
3. Carefully ladle soup into small serving bowls. Top with radish and snow pea sprouts.

crunchy rainbow slaw

SERVES 6 (as a side)

2 carrots, julienned or cut into thin matchsticks

¼ wombok cabbage, finely shredded

¼ red cabbage, finely shredded

100g snow peas, sliced into thin strips

½ cup coriander leaves

½ cup Vietnamese mint leaves

2 shallots, finely sliced on the diagonal

60g sugar snap peas, cut in half

1 small raw yellow beetroot, finely sliced

2 heaped tbsp crispy fried shallots

Dressing

Juice of 1 lime

1 tbsp organic agave syrup

2 garlic cloves

1 small red chilli

2 tsp fish sauce

1. Combine carrot, cabbage, snow peas, coriander, mint, shallots and sugar snap peas in a bowl. Toss to combine. Set aside.
2. Place lime juice and agave syrup in a medium-sized jar with a lid. Using a mortar and pestle, pound the garlic and chilli together until a paste forms. Add garlic mixture to jar with fish sauce. Secure lid on the jar. Shake to combine. Check for seasoning and adjust the flavour with more agave syrup for sweet, more fish sauce for saltiness or more lime juice for acid.
3. Add dressing to cabbage mixture. Toss to combine. Pile the salad high in a shallow serving bowl. Garnish with the yellow beetroot and fried shallots.

roasted umami pork with black sesame sweet potato

SERVES 6

If possible, begin prep a day in advance. Shichimi togarashi is available from some supermarkets or Asian grocery stores.

1.5kg loin of pork (skin on, rolled and scored)

2 tbsp table salt

2 tbsp rice bran oil

2 tbsp shichimi togarashi

1kg orange sweet potato, peeled, cut into 4cm thick slices

Black sesame seeds

1. Place pork on a tray lined with paper towel. Rub salt all over the skin and in between the score cuts. Refrigerate, uncovered, overnight. This helps the skin dry out for the crispiest crackling.
2. When ready to cook, preheat oven to 220°C/200°C fan-forced.
3. Place pork, skin side up on a rack in a large roasting pan. Rub the skin well with the oil. Sprinkle with shichimi togarashi and rub all over the skin and flesh to coat.
4. Roast for 20 minutes. Remove pork from oven. Add the sweet potato to the roasting dish. Toss to coat with pork fat. Season with sea salt and sprinkle with black sesame seeds. Reduce temperature to 170°C/150°C. Roast pork, with the sweet potato, for a further 1 hour or until juices run clear when pierced with a skewer.
5. Transfer the pork to a dish and loosely cover with foil. Allow it to rest for 20 minutes. Serve with the sweet potato.



Roasted umami pork with
black sesame sweet potato

Balinese green bean
& coconut salad

Opposite, inset left: 'Delight' bowl, \$19.95/pair, Freedom. Gold flatware **cutlery**, \$49/assorted set of 5, West Elm. 'Tam' shallow bowl, \$39.95, Country Road. Bedouin Societe **flat sheet** (used as tablecloth), \$320, Fenton & Fenton. **Opposite, inset right:** Honeycomb **tissue balls and fans**, from \$4 each, Poppies For Grace. Teardrop honeycomb jewel **paper decorations**, \$32/assorted set of 3, Lark. Majorette **hat**, \$42, Gold Frankincense + Myrrh. 'Dotty' **wrapping paper**, \$6/sheet, Printscape. **Opposite:** Feather **garland**, \$24.95, Freedom. **This page:** 'Tam' rectangle **platter**, \$39.95, and 'Nima' **platter**, \$29.95, Country Road. Cutipol **salad servers**, \$79.95/pair, The Shelley Pantton Store. **All other props**, stylist's own. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 165

Roast pork with crackling is a traditional holiday favourite but this new take has an Asian twist, alongside a crunchy salad from Bali

balinese green bean & coconut salad

SERVES 6 (as a side)

1½ cups organic shredded coconut, lightly dry toasted in a pan until golden
125g bean sprouts, chopped
250g baby spinach, blanched
500g green beans, chopped and blanched
2 kaffir lime leaves, vein removed, leaves tightly rolled up and finely shredded
Juice of 1 lime

Sambal

½ tsp shrimp paste
1 tsp sea salt
100ml coconut oil
2 large eshallots, finely chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
2 long red chillies, seeded and finely chopped
3 small red chillies, finely chopped
2cm piece fresh turmeric, finely grated
2cm piece ginger, finely grated
1 tsp finely shaved palm sugar

1. Start with the sambal. Crumble together the shrimp paste and the sea salt until it becomes sandy. Set aside. Heat the oil in a small non-stick frypan over high heat. Reduce the heat to medium. Add eshallot, garlic, chilli, turmeric and ginger. Cook, stirring consistently for 2 minutes or until light golden, taking care not to burn the mixture. Add the shrimp paste mixture and palm sugar. Cook, stirring for 1 minute. Strain off the oil from the sambal and set aside. Don't discard the oil, keep it for another use as it has amazing flavour.
2. Combine coconut, bean sprouts, spinach, beans, leaves and lime juice in a large bowl. Add the sambal. Using your hands, toss the mixture to ensure even distribution of the sambal through the salad. Serve.

the caribbean

MAKES 2 (using 200ml glasses)

1 cup crushed ice
60ml spiced rum
300ml coconut water
1 lime
2 vanilla beans, to garnish (optional)

1. Place ice in a cocktail shaker. Add the rum and coconut water. Cut lime in half and squeeze juice into the shaker. Cut juiced lime halves in half. Divide lime quarters between two 200ml serving glasses.
2. Place lid on cocktail shake and secure. Shake vigorously for 1 minute. Remove lid. Pour mixture evenly between serving glasses, over the lime quarters. Garnish each drink with a vanilla bean. Serve.

coconut & white peach tart

SERVES 12

Start this recipe a day ahead. Make sure the cans of coconut milk are in the fridge for at least 24 hours and make sure you use a full-fat premium brand. Also, buy an extra 2 cans and place in the fridge just in case you don't obtain enough coconut solids from the first 2 cans.

240g pitted medjool dates
2 cups dessicated coconut (no added sugar)
2 x 400g cans premium-quality full-fat coconut milk unopened and chilled
¼ cup maple syrup or pure icing sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 cup plain Greek yoghurt
6 white peaches, halved, stones removed, thinly sliced
Toasted coconut flakes and violas, to decorate

1. Place dates in a bowl. Cover with warm water. Stand for 20 minutes or until softened. Drain well. Place the dates and the coconut in a food processor. Process until the mixture comes together.
2. Grease a 4cm-deep, 23cm (base measurement) round loose-based fluted tart pan. Line base with baking paper. Press date mixture into prepared pan. Using the back of a spoon, smooth out the mixture as evenly as possible. Cover tart base and refrigerate overnight.
3. Remove 2 cans of coconut milk from the fridge. Give each a gentle shake – if there is no sloshing sound, it will be perfect to use; if there is a sloshing sound, don't open it and try another can. Carefully open the cans. Scoop out the solid layer of coconut solids from the top (you'll need about ½ cup from each can). Reserve the liquid for another use (try it in smoothies). Using an electric mixer, beat coconut solids with maple syrup or icing sugar and vanilla. Beat on high speed for 1 minute or until mixture is soft and fluffy. Add the yoghurt. Beat for 30 seconds or until fluffy like softly whipped cream.
4. Spoon coconut mixture into the prepared tart case. Top with peach slices and toasted coconut flakes. Place tart in the fridge for 2 hours to allow the coconut mixture to firm up before serving so it's easier to cut. Serve with violas. **10**



The Caribbean



For more of Mish's recipes, check out her blog at mishdelish.com. Follow her on Instagram at @mishlilley.

Opposite, inset left: 'Brim' tumblers, \$49.95/ set of 4, Freedom. Bedouin Societe **flat sheet** (used as tablecloth), \$320, Fenton & Fenton. **Opposite, inset right:** 'Paynter' **side plate**, \$12.95, Freedom. Gold flatware **cutlery**, \$49.95/assorted set of 5, West Elm. **Opposite:** 'Happy Confetti' **bauble**, \$7.95, Poppies For Grace. Feather **wreath**, \$19.95, Freedom. **This page:** 'Madrid' **pie slice**, \$49, and **trivet**, \$18, The Shelley Pantan Store. Feather **garland**, \$24.95, Freedom. **Side plates**, as before. **All other props**, stylist's own. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 165

Bring sparkle to your table with golden details, particularly when it comes to this pretty and delectable tart for dessert

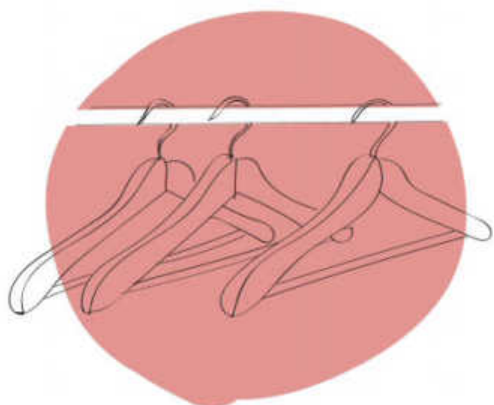


Coconut & white peach tart

Christmas *at home*

how to prepare for house guests

'Tis the season to welcome friends and family to stay. A bit of prep – and a few finishing touches – before they arrive means a relaxed time for everyone WORDS KATHERINE CHATFIELD



declutter and clean

First things first: give your home a good clean, then clear away as many of your personal belongings as possible from the areas your guests will be using, such as the bedroom and bathroom. "Empty a drawer in the bedroom, make space in the wardrobe and leave extra hangers so they can unpack. Make sure there's space in a wardrobe or under the bed, so they can store their empty suitcases," says Abbie Allen, personal concierge and founder of Lifestyle Elements (lifestyleelements.com.au). "On the day your guests arrive, open the windows in the bedroom and burn a scented candle, so it smells fresh and clean."

Mastering the logistics is key, according to Angie Kelso, CEO of Platinum Housekeeping (platinumhousekeeping.com.au). "Remove your items from the bathroom counter, so guests can put their toiletries on the vanity," she says. "It's also a nice touch to leave a laundry bag for their washing."

do a test run

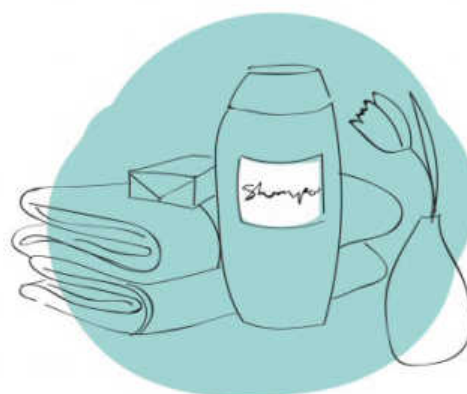
"Pretend you're a visitor in your own home and spend a night in the guest room," says Angie. "Is it too hot? Quiet enough? Is the bed comfy? If you aren't comfortable, your guests won't be either." The simplest way to make the bed look inviting is with "fresh crisp white bedlinen to make an impact", says Angie. "Add extra pillows and a throw. Leave fresh folded towels and face washers on the end of the bed."

"If your guests have children, find out beforehand if they'll need a travel cot or mattress on the floor," says Abbie. Make sure bedside lamps are easily accessible and "leave tissues, water, a clock, phone charger, notepad and pen on the bedside table", says Abbie. Finally, make the room feel luxurious. "Provide some current mags to read, a scented candle and place a vase of flowers on the dressing table."

add a bit of hotel luxury

It's not expensive to make your bathroom feel like a hotel. "Supply plenty of clean soft, fluffy towels," says Angie. "A good trick is to colour code towels for each person so they can keep the same ones for the duration of their stay." Before guests arrive, let them know they can save space in their suitcase by leaving basic toiletries at home. "Leave full bottles of shower gel, shampoo and conditioner in the bathroom. Put soap, hand lotion, moisturiser, room freshener, facial wipes and a hairdryer in a basket."

It's not just about the glamour factor though; the practical things are just as important. "Make sure the plugs for the bath and washbasin are easy to find," says Abbie. "Ensure there is plenty of loo roll that's easily accessible so guests don't have to ask you for it. A container of cleaning wipes under the sink is also handy in case people like to wipe down the sink or countertop after they've used it. Make sure there is a bin, and the toilet brush is clean." Adding a bunch of flowers to the bathroom vanity is an easy way to keep it fresh and vibrant.



make them feel at home

"Give your guests their own set of keys so they can come and go as they please," says Abbie. "They'll feel more at home if they don't have to ring the doorbell every time they come in. Don't forget to give them the code for any alarms you might have, show them how to work them, and mention where you



hide spare keys in case of an emergency." Give your guests all the info, such as your phone number and address on a card, suggests Angie. "It's handy for them to have these details in case they get lost or catch a taxi home," she says.



give plenty of information

If you won't be at home the whole time your guests are, then put together an information folder so they can navigate both your house and the neighbouring area. "Include a local map, things to do, points of interest, directions to the nearest coffee shop, shopping centre, park, local gym, pool or beach," says Angie. "If they'll be using public transport, buy a travel card topped up with \$20, instructions on how to use it, directions to the closest bus/train/ferry and timetables, plus phone numbers of taxi companies. Leave any important phone numbers for family and

friends, and emergency numbers for the electrician, plumber, security, doctor and dentist. Also give them the wi-fi password, instructions for the oven, microwave, coffee machine and air conditioning."

Let them know what your daily routine is so they know what to expect. "Note your shower times, breakfast routine and, if you are working, what time you leave and expect to arrive home. Don't forget to let them know what day a cleaner or gardener comes, so they don't get a fright!"



"A good trick is to colour code towels for each person so they can keep the same ones for the duration of their stay"

ANGIE KELSO, PLATINUM HOUSEKEEPING

stock up

Before your guests arrive, find out if they have any special food requests or allergies, and stock up on anything they might need – even if it's something you don't like. "Show them where to find tea, coffee and snacks," says Abbie. "Let them know the spots for cups and plates or leave a couple out on the benchtop so they can find them easily. Have a supply of breakfast items, including fresh fruit, in stock. If there are kids staying, mini cereal boxes are always a hit."

Don't neglect the drinks, either. "Ensure you have plenty of soft and alcoholic drinks

available," adds Angie. "Fill your pantry with extra champagne, beer and wine, plus nibbles to go with them. Keep a couple of small bottles of water in the fridge for them to take when they venture out and about."

be prepared

Get as much done as possible before your guests arrive, so you can spend the first few hours with them. "Be organised and prepare your first meal in advance," says Angie. "Have the shopping done, the table set, drinks ready and food prepared. Then you can relax and enjoy each other's company." **10**

Christmas *at home* browse, buy & wrap

Struggling to find a pressie for everyone? Your Christmas list is sorted, thanks to these online stores

COMPILED BY CARLIE OATES



1 Temple & Webster

templeandwebster.com.au

If size matters, then 1.2 million members can't be wrong. Sign up at T&W to gain access to beautifully curated homeware sales every day at members-only prices. Each sale lasts for three to five days and, with limited quantities and discounts of up to 70 per cent, you have to be quick on that keyboard. Industry insiders' advice and style tips are also on offer on the accompanying blog.

The turnaround: With estimated delivery times at two to four weeks, you need to be prepared for that special gift-giving day.

You'll find items similar to these at Temple & Webster (templeandwebster.com.au): *Feather wall art*, from \$219; gold concrete *vase*, \$26.95; and 'Black Crosses' *crockery set*, \$49.95.

2 Etsy

etsy.com

Buying for that tricky friend who avoids the mainstream? Etsy offers unique and individual items designed and sold by the artists/curators themselves, based locally and overseas. Yes, it's arty and crafty; no, it's not all doilies and tea cosies (although you could probably find a few). With 15 million sellers and 21.7 million buyers around the world, this global community has gift hunting covered and then some.

The turnaround: Double-check shipping costs and schedules if purchasing from an international seller. And allow ample arrival time for made-to-order items.

Paul & Paula 'Banana' baby *leggings*, \$30, paulandpaulashop.etsy.com. Sam And Charlie 'Bunny Rabbit' *toy*, \$28, samandcharlie.etsy.com. Fox & Ramona 'Grid' concrete *planters*, from \$65 each, foxandramona.etsy.com.



3 David Jones

shop.davidjones.com.au

The iconic department store with its shiny cosmetic floor, luxury fashion and famous lifestyle selection extends its charm to the online world. With all the best brands and products only a few clicks away, you can find a little something for everyone on your list and have it gift-wrapped (free if you're a DJ's cardholder) and delivered (free when you spend more than \$100 in one transaction) to your door. This would be the place to make a big ticket purchase for that special someone.

The turnaround: Standard delivery takes up to a week or longer for some locations. An express option costs \$12 to \$15, and you can specify a weekday delivery date.

Vilac metal *toy car* \$199.95; iittala 'Aalto' *vase* by Alvar Aalto, \$189.95; Georg Jensen 'Masterpieces Design 1085' *candlestick*, \$915, all David Jones, shop.davidjones.com.au.



4 TheHome.com.au

Sign up here and you'll receive a regular newsletter alerting you to the latest sales on over 500 brands of homewares, bedding, art and furniture, often at hugely discounted prices. With selections from big brands (Royal Doulton, Florence Broadhurst, etc) to smaller labels (Escape To Paradise, TMod, etc), all styles and budgets are considered so that friend or sibling who loves to update his/her accessories can be ticked off right here.

The turnaround: TheHome.com.au doesn't physically have stock until each sale is over, so this means some orders take a little longer to arrive.

You'll find items similar to these at TheHome.com.au: stretched **canvas**, \$289; navy tile **rug**, \$249; and copper **stool**, \$129.

5 Hardtofind

hardtofind.com.au

That perfect gift isn't hard to find apparently. This one-stop shop takes the anxiety out of gift giving for birthdays, housewarmings and, oh, Christmas. You can shop by personality, meaning you'll find that elusive quirky-but-romantic, cute-yet-chic present. Soon, you'll be buying for your long-lost aunty's friend's neighbour's cousin just because you can.

The turnaround: Each item includes a customised delivery note so you know when to expect it. Most items ship within one or two business days.

Palomar 'Crumpled City' London **map**, \$29.95; Donkey Products 'Flower Power Elegant Audrey' **plant pot**, from \$34.95; Studio Cockatoo *Geometric Wombat* art **print**, \$20, all Hardtofind, hardtofind.com.au.



6 eBay

ebay.com.au

Nothing warms the heart more than finding and gifting a one-off vintage or antique piece bought for a portion of its value. Second-hand buying is eBay's home turf, so it's here that you're sure to find something special. Be specific in your search terms! If vintage isn't your bag, you'll also find brand new items from small sellers to big labels. Many sellers offer a buyer-friendly 'Buy It Now' option that takes away the auction anxiety and secures the gift immediately.

The turnaround: Estimated delivery windows are given for each item. If it's local, opting to pick up can put the power in your hands. **10**

Sounds Like Home 'Railway' **entertainment unit**, \$1023; Sounds Like Home 'Tropica Curve' **stool**, \$219; and 'Marni' **bedside table** in Gloss Yellow, \$69.95, Zanui on eBay, stores.ebay.com.au/zanui.



wide world of shopping

Shop online and the world is your stylishly served oyster. American-owned **CB2 (cb2.com)**, the chic sister to homewares giant Crate And Barrel,

has a slightly younger, more modern twist to its homewares and gifts. From dinnerware to playful office accessories, you'll be pleasantly pleased

with every category. **Anthropologie (anthropologie.com)** offers a curated range where you can buy a quirky owl mug, an Ikat rug, a landscape wall

mural and everything in between.

Tip: Sign up to as many newsletters as possible, and keep an eye out for free international shipping.

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inside

magic touch

A variety of tactile finishes adds depth to a timeless look

When you're drowning in endless paint swatches for a fresh update, it's easy to focus on just the colour. But don't forget the actual finish. The rustic patina of a lime-washed exterior will bring character to your home, as seen with this weathered wall. The owners of this monochromatic Sydney house have taken it a step further with an earthy, stucco-like texture on the bedroom wall. For more of this home's elegant take on going monochrome, turn to page 98.



MODERN TASTES

WITH A BOLD COLOUR PALETTE AND PLENTY OF SPACE FOR ENTERTAINING, THIS MELBOURNE FAMILY HOME IS PERFECT FOR CELEBRATIONS

WORDS CATHERINE MCCORMACK STYLING HEATHER NETTE KING PHOTOGRAPHY MARK ROPER



OPPOSITE: THONET CHAIRS; BLOOM & CO. BLOOMANDCOCO.COM.AU; NO. B9 LE CORBUSIER CHAIR; THONET; THONET.COM.AU; HONEYCOMB TISSUE BALLS AND FANS; POPPIES FOR GRACE; POPPIESFORGRACE.COM; GREEN AND CREAM TEARDROP HONEYCOMB TISSUE DECORATIONS; LARK; LARKSTORE.COM.AU; ON MANTELPIECE; METAL TREE; FREEDOM.FREEDOMCOM.AU; CONFETTI BAUBLE; POPPIES FOR GRACE; AS BEFORE; VASE; TURNER & LANE; TURNERLANE.COM.AU; STOCKINGS; LARK; AS BEFORE; TABLECLOTH; FENTON & FENTON; FENTONANDFENTON.COM.AU; CUTLERY; WEST ELM; WESTELM.COM.AU; SHALLOW BLACK BOWL AND WHITE AND GREY PLATTERS; COUNTRY ROAD; COUNTRYROAD.COM.AU; MUGS; FREEDOM; AS BEFORE





OUTSIDE Succulents and natives feature in the garden, although owner Mish (pictured, opposite, with her family) does tend a vegie patch. "I often let things run wild to see how they evolve and how I can use them as garnishes in my food," she says.

CHEAT SHEET

Who lives here: Cook and food stylist Mish Lilley; her husband, Ben, CEO of an advertising agency; and their daughters Ruby, 10; Bo, 8; and Sunny, 6.

Style of house: A four-bedroom, two-storey Victorian-era house with a modern extension in South Yarra.

 The renovation and extension took a year from start to finish.

 Mish and Ben had a budget of \$600k - the final cost was \$650k including landscaping.





CASUAL DINING/LIVING AREA

Ben's favourite orange tone makes a bright statement with vintage glassware, dining chairs and an old pendant light. The photograph is of a work in San Francisco by street artist Hush.

Nothing makes me happier than having family and friends around, and being able to share beautiful food and wine," says cook Mish Lilley, who, with husband Ben, allowed a love of entertaining to dictate the renovation of their Victorian-era home in South Yarra, Melbourne.

The couple bought the two-storey, four-bedroom house – which they share with daughters Ruby, Bo, and Sunny – in 2011. "We were living in Windsor and felt a little bit cooped up," says Mish. "We love being in the heart of it, and this property, which is really green out the back, is a bit of an oasis in what is quite a busy area."

Seasoned renovators, Mish and Ben could also see the potential to extend the downstairs living area to create a family-friendly hub. "We got a great architect in – Techne Architecture + Interior Design – and were quite specific about the style we wanted," says Mish. "We took out a wall where there was a tiny TV room, opened up the kitchen and pushed the footprint out into the backyard. It was all about creating an open-plan space with lots of natural light."

The extension, framed with black powder-coated aluminium sliding doors, uses a concrete floor to highlight the casual dining area. The old square-shaped kitchen was gutted and reconfigured for Mish, who works from home to develop, style and photograph recipes for clients and for her blog, Mish Delish. "It was important to have a great photographic environment with natural light and an interesting mix of backdrops," she says of the spacious kitchen, which includes streamlined floor-to-ceiling cabinetry, double wall ovens, a walk-in pantry and a generous marble-topped island bench.

"The architect was like, 'Are you sure you want that much bench space?' But I use every inch of it," says Mish. "I'm always in the kitchen and I love being able to spread out and have people congregate around the area. The kids have breakfast on the stools and we have a wood-fired oven outside – when we open up the doors, the space really becomes an entertaining mecca."

Another highlight is a tangerine-backed box shelf along the splashback. "Ben has an obsession with tangerine," says Mish. "He once had a 1970s BMW in that colour and all his friends gave him heaps about it. He decided to embrace it, so it's now his favourite colour and there are a few tangerine highlights in the house."

Bright colour is a signature for Mish and Ben, who updated the interiors with a classic black-and-white scheme highlighted with furniture, fixtures and art in bold tones. "We love being surrounded by art and design, and we've remained true to our style here," says Mish. "We like clean lines and that injection of colour." Upstairs, a vibrant green door heralds Mish and Ben's bedroom, while, in Bo and Sunny's room, side-by-side sunshine-yellow cast-iron beds pop in front of black-and-white polka-dot wallpaper.

Travel inspires Mish, whose recipes – including her exclusive menu for *Inside Out* on page 76 – feature flavours from around the globe. Seasonal produce is another influence. "In summer, I keep things clean and crisp with a colourful array of food on the table," she says. Floral arrangements are whatever's in bloom, although this time last year it was a row of pineapples spray-painted gold. "For Christmas, I like things to be quite festive," says Mish. "I put a lot of thought into what I do, and I think people appreciate that." **10**

For more of Mish's recipes, visit her blog at mishdelish.com. For more on Techne Architecture + Interior Design, visit techne.com.au.

"WE'VE REMAINED TRUE TO OUR STYLE HERE. WE LIKE CLEAN LINES AND THAT INJECTION OF COLOUR"

MISH LILLEY, HOMEOWNER



KITCHEN Polished Grigio Carnico marble brings a luxe look to the cooking zone, along with a tinted mirror splashback. **LOUNGE (opposite)** An orange sofa and Matt Irwin's *Splat* photograph are vivid pieces. "We have a massive interest in street art – it brings in heaps of colour," says Mish. The wire chandelier was made in Bali.

OPPOSITE: GLASSES, FREEDOM, FREEDOM.COM.AU. THIS PAGE: WRAPPING PAPER AND GIFT TAGS, PRINTSPACE.COM.AU. TREE DECORATIONS, MY CHRISTMAS.COM.AU. VELVET CUSHIONS, FENTON & FENTON, FENTONANDFENTON.COM.AU. PATCHWORK CUSHION, TURNER & LANE, TURNERLANE.COM.AU. RUG, LOOM RUGS, LOOMRUGS.COM



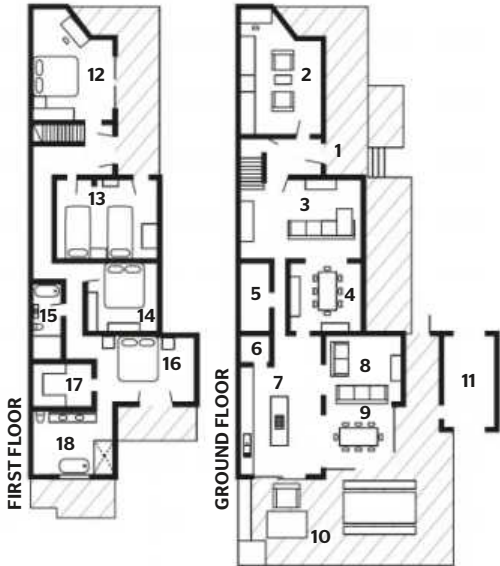


Try 'H2O' enamel gloss paint in Black Ace, \$78.50/4L, and 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior paint in Love Note, \$56.90/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au.



STAIRWELL (above left) Bo can't wait for Christmas Day. A black carpet runner softens the stairs while Poppies For Grace paper decorations are a fun way to get into the festive spirit. **BATHROOM (above right)** 'Vogue Cedro' tiles from Classic Ceramics are teamed with black grout for a bold feature wall and bath surround. The same marble benchtop in the kitchen is used here. **BO & SUNNY'S ROOM (opposite)** The ceiling rose and chandelier are original to the house.

- 1. Entry
- 2. Library
- 3. Lounge
- 4. Formal dining room
- 5. Laundry/ powder room
- 6. Pantry
- 7. Kitchen
- 8. Living area
- 9. Dining area
- 10. Outdoor entertaining area
- 11. Studio
- 12. Ruby's bedroom
- 13. Bo and Sunny's bedroom
- 14. Guest bedroom
- 15. Bathroom
- 16. Master bedroom
- 17. Walk-in robe
- 18. Ensuite



PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION. LEFT: WRAPPING PAPER AND GIFT TAGS, PRINTSPACE, PRINTSPACE.COM.AU; HONEYCOMB TISSUE BALLS AND FANS, POPPIESFORGRACE.COM.AU; THIS PAGE: SANTA SACK, LARK, LARKSTORE.COM.AU; HAT, GOLD FRANKINCENSE + MYRRH, GOLDFRANKINCENSEMYRRH.NET



star performer

In the bedrooms, Mish and Ben haven't held back, with a vibrant combo of colour and graphic pattern.



LESSONS LEARNT

“I’D DEFINITELY THINK TWICE ABOUT BLACK JAPAN-STAINED FLOORS AGAIN”

MISH LILLEY, HOMEOWNER

“The floors look amazing but they are an absolute pain to keep clean – they show up everything and with three young kids in the house, it’s not the best. Although I guess if I wasn’t so OCD about keeping them clean it wouldn’t be such a problem.”

Best part of the renovation: “This is the third house we’ve renovated and I felt I’d gathered enough experience and knowledge to know exactly how I wanted my kitchen to operate. That learning was invaluable. Before starting, we thought about everything, right down to the vintage San Marino coffee machine.”



ENSUITE (above left) Colour is kept to a minimum with the focus instead on the sculptural forms of the saguaro cacti growing outside. Mish and Ben had the home’s original clawfoot tub painted black. Porcelanosa ‘Par-Ker’ timber-look floor tiles add nuance and texture to the scheme. **MASTER BEDROOM (above right)** The couple used powder-coated pressed metal wall panels from Schots to “give the room a little bit more of a Victorian style”, says Mish. The four-poster bed was designed by Ben.

ARTWORK: (THIS PAGE) BP SKULL BY JOSH CLEARY

**“I FEEL AS IF WE DON’T EVEN
HAVE TO LEAVE THE HOUSE
- IT’S A REAL OASIS HERE”**

MISH LILLEY, HOMEOWNER



POOL Mish and her girls Sunny, Bo and Ruby can lap up the sun come summertime in this idyllic outdoor corner, a world away from the busy urban location of the home. The bright orange moose head sculptures are by Tom Ripon.



a minimalist LIFESTYLE

Sticking to a monochromatic palette allows details and texture to shine in this one-of-a-kind Sydney home

WORDS & STYLING **TAHNEE CARROLL** PHOTOGRAPHY **FELIX FOREST**




EXTERIOR (left) The building's facade was painted in a lime wash product. The finish has created a beautiful patina over the years. **KITCHEN/DINING AREA** "Our dining table was custom made by Cafe Culture + Insitu," says owner Leah, a fan of minimalism. The warm-toned timber table was a result of a compromise between Leah and husband Darius.




cheat sheet

Who lives here: Leah Taylor, interior designer, stylist and the force behind homewares shop The Minimalist; her husband, Darius, who works in finance, and their cat, Asher.

Style of house: A four-storey one-bedroom Sydney terrace with a retail store on the ground level.

 Leah and Darius gave their home a cosmetic makeover that took nine months.

 Around \$20k to update the kitchen, balcony and rooftop, as well as refreshing the interior.

Leah and Darius moved into the iconic Porter's Paints building in Sydney's Surry Hills four years ago, and although the exterior was certainly eye-catching, the interior, balcony and rooftop needed work.

The ground level of the building is home to Leah's homewares store, The Minimalist. A separate entry takes you to the second floor and into the open-plan kitchen, dining and living area of their home. The bedroom and bathroom cover the entire third floor, flowing out onto a large undercover balcony and stairs leading up to the rooftop terrace. Despite not owning the building, the pair has been able to give the interior a much-needed refresh due to the long-term commercial lease agreement they have with the owners. "We would love to buy the property if we had the option – we can definitely see ourselves staying here for a long time yet!" says Leah.

When the couple moved in, the original kitchen had white open shelves and cupboards covered with a brown 'timber look' laminate. "The walls were a very dark charcoal colour with one bright red feature wall," says Leah. The priority, when it came to making updates, was to simplify and streamline the kitchen's look, giving the space a monochromatic overhaul. "We did that by adding matte black cabinetry, new handles and by painting the surrounding walls a very light grey," explains Leah. "We didn't do much but the overall effect changed the entire feel of the space."



LIVING AREA (above) A lover of fine design, Leah (pictured, left) couldn't resist the Swedese 'Cartoon' chair from Fred International. The Blacklist Love print, Hay side table and 'Mr. Dowel Jones' floor lamp are all pieces from Leah's store, The Minimalist. **ROOFTOP TERRACE (opposite)** Leah had cushions made for the bench seat, upholstered in 'Lomani' outdoor fabric from Warwick Fabrics. A couple of tiles by Jai Vasicek from Ahoy Trader adorn the wall. The Mae Engelgeer throw, Bein' Frank cacti beakers and Jennifer + Smith outdoor cushions and ottoman are all pieces from The Minimalist's previous shop collections.



“The rooftop area is
our favourite space
– we use it all year
round”

LEAH TAYLOR, HOMEOWNER



OFFICE (above) "I keep my desk space separate from the store, otherwise I'd never get anything done! I'd just be talking to our lovely customers all day long," says Leah. She has paired a trestle table from IKEA with a Magis 'Piña' chair by Jaime Hayon from Cult. **LIVING AREA (right)** "My favourite things about the living area are the white textured walls and high ceilings," says Leah. The zone is a reflection of Leah's minimalist aesthetic. The King Living 'Jasper' sofa is accented by an Armadillo&Co rug and Jennifer + Smith cushions, while the custom-made ottoman was from King Living.



The kitchen features a commercial grade oven and cooktop and a three-metre-long custom-made dining table from Cafe Culture + Insitu that is perfect for entertaining guests. Leah chose three Mud Australia pendant lights over the dining setting to create a sense of repetition, while her favourite parts of the new design are the open feel of the space and the subway tiles with black grout, which she changed from white using a black grout pen.

Despite a monochromatic scheme throughout the home, Leah has managed to create a space that feels warm and inviting. "The timber floors and textured brick walls soften the look and keep it from feeling too clinical," she says. The interior was revitalised with a fresh lick of paint, and sheer linen curtains add another texture. A pale grey on the walls of the combined kitchen and living area helps to unify the interior in its minimalist form.

The pair topped off the style facelift with the rooftop garden, completely stripping it back to its bones. They kept the wood-fired

pizza oven intact, and installed a bar beside it for easy prep, as well as outdoor lighting and a sound system. Making sure the rooftop was fit for entertaining was a must. "We use the space all the time. We have a New Year's Eve party up there every year and lots of other occasions throughout the year like birthdays, Halloween dress-up parties or even just summer afternoon drinks," says Darius. Staying true to the home's colour palette, the rooftop features shades of grey, black and white, accented by garden greenery.

Leah and Darius' home is a reflection of Leah's distinctive personal style. "I like simplicity and texture, and having just a few really strong key pieces and minimal clutter," she says. "I've always loved simplicity. As a child I always wanted to wear white and it's still the most calming and serene colour for me. Life is crazy busy enough and I like my home to be calm and uncluttered, filled only with the things I love the most." **10**

For more on Leah's shop *The Minimalist*, visit theminimalist.com.au.



timeline

2011

2012

September Leah and Darius move in and plan an initial renovation of six months.

February Research and planning begins. Leah finds inexpensive ways to update the kitchen, while also deciding on the colour palette and wall finishes. Outdoor upholstery fabric is chosen, as well as the sound system and lighting for the rooftop space.

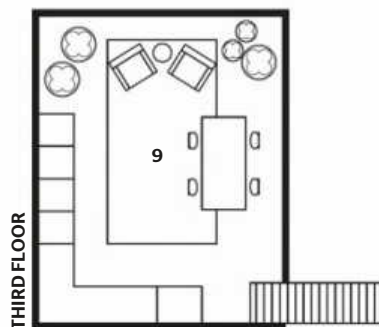
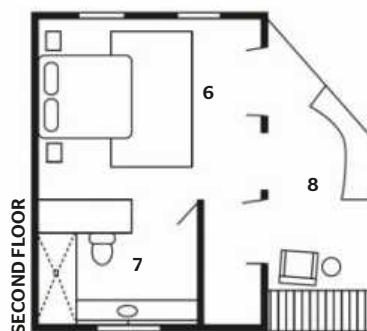
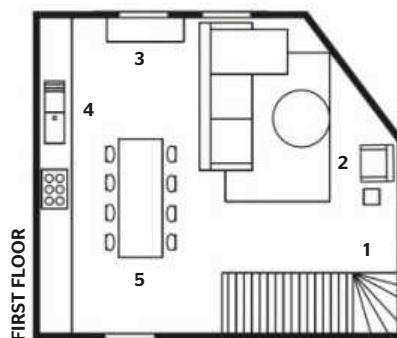
March Work on the rooftop and balcony continues with a huge amount of timber, large pots and dead landscaping removed to clear way for the view, which had previously been blocked out. An outdoor bar is added along with the sound system and lighting.

April The outdoor bench is upholstered and installed. The artificial turf is laid, and large black pots with lemon and lime trees placed and furniture is arranged. **May** The entire interior is given a fresh coat of paint. The living level is painted in a slightly textured finish,

Porter's Paints 'Eggshell Acrylic' paint in Chalk NSW. Curtains are installed. **June** Kitchen cabinetry facade is replaced with new doors and handles. Using a grout paint pen, Leah changes the splashback grouting from white to black.



ROOFTOP AREA With its enviable city view, this outdoor zone has now reached its full potential. An artificial turf lawn lends a tactile touch underfoot while these shapely outdoor armchairs from IKEA provide another spot to relax. **MASTER BEDROOM (opposite)** Crisp bedlinen from Cultiver, an old Furninova bed and a Zuster side table continue the home's sophisticated look.



1. Entry
2. Living area
3. Office
4. Kitchen
5. Dining area
6. Master bedroom
7. Ensuite
8. Balcony
9. Rooftop terrace

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT SOURCING: DANIELLE SELIG. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



3 GREAT FINDS

1

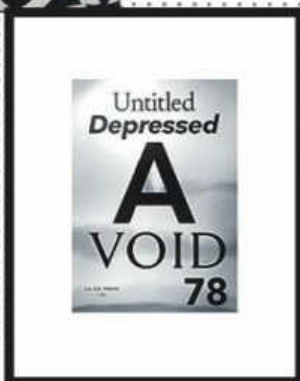
'Striped' rug (125cm x 180cm), \$580, Langdon Ltd, langdonltd.com.au.

2

'Arrow' cushion cover with tassels, \$89.90, Citta Design, cittadesign.com.

3

Playtype Random print, from \$120 (unframed), The Minimalist, theminimalist.com.au.



material mix



1. Lime Wash in Promenade, \$111.70/4L, Porter's Paints, 1800 656 664. 2. 'Fresco' finish in Parnassus, \$132.60/4L, Porter's Paints, as before. 3. 'Premium Oak' lacquered prefinished flooring in Black Forest, \$80/sqm, Premium Floors, premiumfloors.com.au.

lessons learnt

“I learnt a little patience. Once I get an idea, I want to do it right away and that’s not always possible” LEAH TAYLOR, HOMEOWNER

“Thankfully we didn’t make any big or costly mistakes, and I think that’s due to taking the process of renovating slowly, and making sure we researched all the variables first.”

Best surprise: “The rooftop area worked out so well. It wasn’t even used by the previous residents, so clearing everything out of the space, opening it up and seeing its full potential was really exciting.”

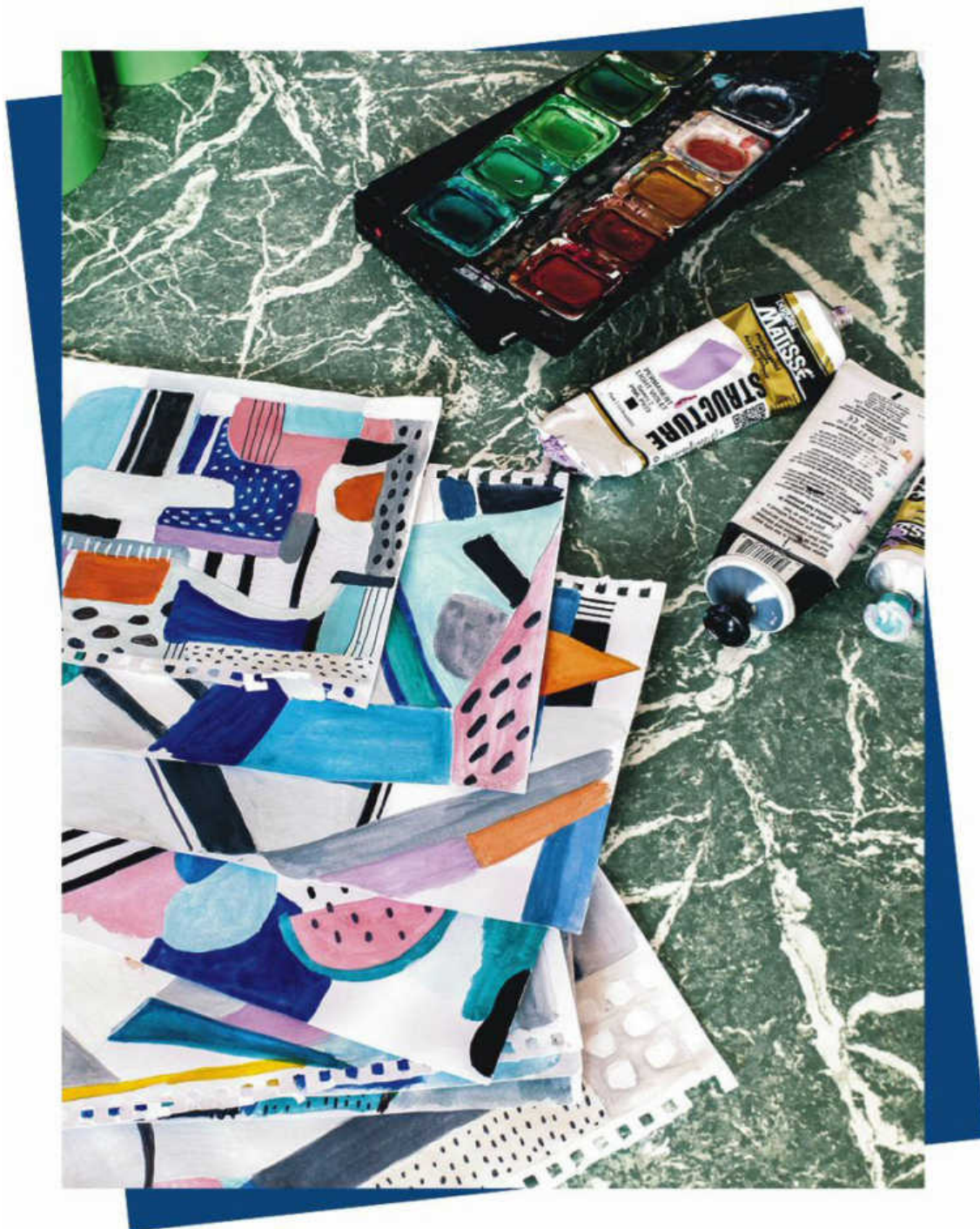
What I’d do differently: “We were only able to give our kitchen a minor facelift but I would’ve loved to put in a completely new kitchen with deeper cabinets and more drawers.”



star performer

We love the change of pace in the master bedroom. The clean white floating wall is softened by a warm, textured painted surface behind.





VINTAGE SCANDI

This small family home scores big in the personality stakes, driven by a combination of classic design and bright colour

WORDS **SOPHIE KNOX** STYLING **MARSHA GOLEMAC** PHOTOGRAPHY **BROOKE HOLM**

1 | SECOND CHANCES


When Charlotte and Clem first sighted this Melbourne apartment, they found a relic. "All the blinds were pulled down, and there were peach walls and blue carpet everywhere," says Charlotte. "We decided instantly to put in wooden floors and paint the walls white. We slept on an air mattress while we were renovating." The parquetry floor is ideal for the couple's love of vintage pieces—the armchair and teak dresser are just a couple of examples. "It's a style that doesn't date the way contemporary pieces can," says Charlotte.


Tip: Cultivate a sense of history and character with vintage furniture. Your choice in accessories will give the look an extra personal touch.

CHEAT SHEET

Who lives here: Charlotte Swiden, graphic and homewares designer; her husband, Clem Stamation, animator and art director; and sons Lukas, 3; and Nils, 7 months.

Style of home: A retro-Swedish two-bedroom apartment in a 1970s block of 12 in Melbourne's Brunswick.

 The couple renovated the unit after moving in eight years ago, but have continued to make small adjustments here and there.

 The initial renovation cost \$15k, covering new flooring, painting, wall finishes and some rewiring.



2 | COLLECT CALL

Signs of the couple's travels colour the home here, in the living room, Charlotte picked up the vibrant handmade cushion and throw in Mexico. And Clem's Greek heritage is evident in his family's handmade pieces, such as the red-tiled coffee table his grandfather made. "Clem was a real collector when I met him the first time I walked into his house, I thought it was a museum. He's had to pare back a lot," says Charlotte. "I came to Australia with only a suitcase of clothes but over the years, I've dragged some special pieces back with me from Sweden." The couple's deep blue Rörstrand ceramics take pride of place in the ingenious alcove.

Tip: Go for something different with what you display. Here, crockery in the living room works.



The pair's ingenuity can be seen in their solution to the lack of storage in the unit. "There was a gas heater inserted into the wall, so we removed it and put in shelves," says Charlotte.



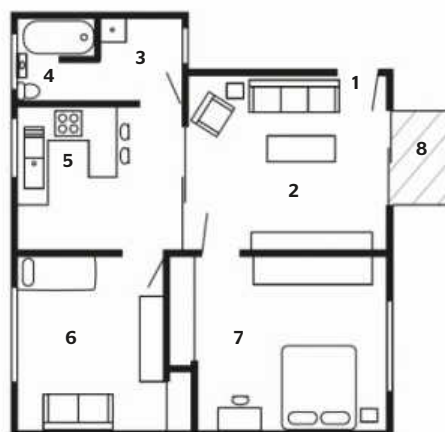


For a similar light mint tone, try 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior paint in Pure Mint, \$60.90/4L, British Paints, 132 525.

3 FRESHLY MINTED

"As a designer, I always start with a white base then put colour on top of it," says Charlotte. "I wanted to paint all the walls white, but Clem wanted colour, so we compromised on mint for the kitchen." And the soft green works a treat with hints of orange and black. The other changes to the kitchen were painting the original brown floral wall tiles white "it was meant to be a temporary solution but, to our surprise, it has lasted perfectly" replacing the cupboard handles, and installing new fans. "The floor tiles are our next project the originals are cracking," says Charlotte. Maintaining the white foundation is the goal though, as the tiles and cabinetry add to the fresh feel of the apartment. "We have windows on both sides of the home, which helps with light access. It's what sold us on the place!" says Charlotte.

Tip: An eat-in bench in the kitchen is a great space-savvy option, allowing this family to forgo having a dining table altogether.



- 1. Entry
- 2. Living room
- 3. Laundry
- 4. Bathroom
- 5. Kitchen
- 6. Kids' bedroom
- 7. Master bedroom
- 8. Balcony

4 CLOSE TO HOME

"I have strong influences from growing up in Sweden I constantly try to bring that influence into my life here," says Charlotte. It's brightly demonstrated in the Nordic vibe of her own work, such as these cushions in sons Lukas and Nils's room. Charlotte's friend, stylist Marsha Golemac, crafted the mobile for Lukas (pictured with Charlotte).

Tip: A foldout bed is ideal in a kid's room, allowing space for a play area even in a small zone.



“A SCANDI LOOK ISN'T JUST WOOD, NEUTRALS AND WHITE – THERE'S BOLD COLOUR, TOO”

CHARLOTTE SWIDEN, OWNER



5 | VARIETY STORE

Not all storage is created equal. Clem's 10-year-old Freedom piece brings visual interest to an otherwise conventional remedy for the space. The different shapes within the unit make it seem like several pieces in one. The spotty tray is one of Charlotte's recent creations. The white walls get a colour treatment via vintage Cuban prints and wrapping paper. "The wrapping paper features illustrations of buildings in Berlin," says Charlotte.

Tip: Be creative with how you position your art and choose a variety of sizes and frames.



6 | CREATIVE CORNER

Charlotte and Clem do most of their work in their own studio in Collingwood, which they sublet to other creative artists. When inspiration strikes at home, there's a place for Charlotte to get sketching in the master bedroom. The marble-effect desk was found at a second-hand store and forms the central hub of this casual office zone. The wall shelf – an original 'String Pocket' shelf by Nisse Strinning – is from Sweden, as is the framed *Ögon Cacao* poster by designer Olle Eksell. The Swedish cobra telephone was a surprise find among Clem's dad's possessions – he used it years ago when he worked at a telephone company. The old suitcase is a roadside discovery that suits Charlotte and Clem's penchant for preloved, retro wares and is ideal for extra storage.

Tip: In a small zone, pick furniture pieces that have a slim profile – steel frames should be a go-to.

7 FABRIC OF LIFE

Charlotte crafted cushions for her bedroom with fabric offcuts her mother sent her from Sweden. Above the bed, there's a lovely touch of whimsy in the soaring bird, flying high into a framed photo of clouds taken by Charlotte. Hanging from the frame is Charlotte's engagement ring, handmade by Clem with twigs from Charlotte's hometown of Malmö. The throw is another of Clem's family treasures, bringing a band of colour to the white bedlinen. The bedroom walls are adorned with grassweave wallpaper.

Tip: Bring on the pattern! As long as prints fall into a similar colour palette and style, they will work together with a neutral background.



style match

Chee Soon & Fitzgerald stocks similar vintage grassweave wallpaper, \$120/6m roll, cheesoonfitzgerald.com.





8 | POINT OF VIEW

Red roofs frame the foreground of the balcony view, but it's palm trees and city views that make the perspective at once urban and tropical. The couple installed twig planter boxes along the outside of the balcony. "We use the balcony a lot because it's the only outdoor space we have," says Charlotte. "Lukas had a bath out there the other day when it was warm. You have to make the most of what you've got." Greenery is a huge part of Clem and Charlotte's master plan. "Our guilty pleasure is the accumulation of plants," says Charlotte. "It got to the point where they were taking over, so we started moving them into our studio space." There's a touch of the Greek Islands in the blue-and-white striped umbrella. "When you're a Swede, you can't help yourself!" says Charlotte of this IKEA favourite.

Tip: Juxtapose punchy bright colours with white to instantly add life to a bare spot.

9 | CLOSE TO HOME

In the boys' bedroom, the Marimekko bear print by Sanna Annukka and the classic Swedish Dalecarlian horses recall Charlotte's heritage. Layered over the top of this bright and happy aesthetic is Clem and Charlotte's enterprising spirit with their varied collection of op-shop treasures and market finds. This cabinet is a market buy. Charlotte picked up the rocking horse from a second-hand store and painted it white.

Tip: Find the potential in vintage finds – a lick of paint, a fresh coat of varnish or a new frame can make tired pieces new again.



“OUR HOME IS 1970S RETRO STYLE, OVERLAID WITH MY SCANDINAVIAN AESTHETIC”

CHARLOTTE SWIDEN, OWNER



Want a soft grey feature wall? Try 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior paint in Eskimo House, \$56.90/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au.



10 | FAMILIAR PATTERN

More of Charlotte's own work can be found in the boys' bedroom with her bright wooden decorations and fruity prints on the shelf. The Gunilla Axén 'Moln' cloud pattern on Lukas' quilt is another graphic look thrown into the happy mix, as is the Marimekko squirrel artwork by Sanna Annukka on the wall and the blanket knitted by Clem's grandmother.

Tip: A floating shelf is a child-friendly option to display art as it's out of harm's way. 10

For a look at Charlotte's work, visit swiden.com.au.



art & soul


Modern looks meet preloved charm
in a designer couple's Stockholm unit



cheat sheet

Who lives here: Evelina Kravaev Söderberg (pictured opposite), head of design for H&M Home; her husband, Stefan, designer and owner of fashion brand Hope (hope-sthlm.com); their son, Ted, 16; and daughter, Eli, 12; and pets Nix the cat and Wifi the hamster.

Style of home: A 1920s apartment with a mix of vintage and mid-century touches in the centre of Stockholm, Sweden.

 Evelina purchased the property 17 years ago and has made mostly cosmetic changes.



DINING ROOM Owners Evelina and Stefan are both designers, so it's no surprise to find their home filled with inspiring coffee-table books. Evelina favours a blend of vintage and modern pieces and the dining setting epitomises this: surrounding an expansive white table is a collection of chairs found in vintage stores across Stockholm, perfect for entertaining.

LIVING AREA A midnight-blue B&B Italia 'Tufty-Time' sofa by Patricia Urquiola, topped with soft furnishings from H&M Home, is at the core of this inviting space. "The table is an Eames," says Evelina. "We've been collecting mid-century modern furniture for some time. The 'Swan' chairs by Arne Jacobsen - we'll never get tired of them. The sideboard is from the '60s."





“My home is a place of calm, but it’s not too perfect or organised”

EVELINA KRAVAEV SÖDERBERG, HOMEOWNER

Seeing as she spends her days working with beautiful pieces for global label H&M Home, it’s not surprising that Evelina Kravaev Söderberg goes home to an equally beautiful apartment. Living in the heart of Stockholm, the designer is driven to create a nest that reflects her family: husband and fashion designer Stefan and their two kids, Ted and Eli. “I love creating pieces for the home during the day, and then coming back to my own space to unwind and enjoy living,” she says.

Evelina, how would you describe your style? It’s very serene, mostly using shades of black, white or grey. My home is a place of calm, but it’s also not too perfect or organised. I love a home that feels lived in, so you can sense the character of the people in it and that they enjoy their life in the space. This comes with placing vintage pieces with new designs, contrasting textures in cushions and throws, and by having personal objects and art on display.

What was it like when you moved in? As soon as we saw the apartment we fell in love – there was so much room, light and air. All that we needed to do was redecorate. Some of the walls were yellow and turquoise – it was not so nice, so we painted the whole place. But the wood floors are amazing and original, and the layout is pretty much the same. We’ve expanded the bathroom, and we’ve also made a bigger opening between the dining room and the living area. We were so lucky to find this apartment, and have never considered moving. It’s become part of who we are.

Tell us about the kitchen. We bought the table from a vintage store, but put on the marble top ourselves. Our tableware is a blend of vintage and H&M Home. I like things that are not too perfect and I love vintage because these pieces have a history and imperfections, which I like. I never polish old silver cutlery because I love it when it gets a bit dark. It’s great to have preloved finds with pieces from H&M Home, like the linen napkins, the candleholder and the bread basket. I love to use H&M Home to refresh my style and to add character to the mix.

How does the kitchen reflect your own personal approach?

I love mixing different eras, especially when the new things relate to those that are old. We like to have the bottles and jars on display – the kitchen feels more alive when things aren’t hidden.

LIVING AREA Amongst Evelina and Stefan's enviable mid-century furniture collection is a chaise lounge by Marcel Breuer and an Eames moulded plywood coffee table.

KITCHEN (right) "The larger board is by Italian designer Andrea Brugi," says Evelina. "He creates furniture from old wood. He makes everything by hand and is so amazing."



It's more practical anyway. I'm a fan of everything beautiful, so we try to combine quality with aesthetics when we choose our olive oil or salt. My husband does the cooking – I create the table settings. I'm a lousy cook, so that's how we work together – the better he gets, the worse I get. I used to be able to do a few dishes, but now I'm down to zero.

How did you design the dining room? We love to entertain at home, so it was really important to create a space that felt welcoming and is also full of interest. At the heart of the room is the table, which we've surrounded with pairs of old cafe chairs that we found in vintage stores in Stockholm. I like how the chairs have their own character, even before there are people sitting in them. The dining room is a great place for both art and books, because it makes the space feel lively with ideas and creativity. The photo of Christy Turlington [not shown] was a really good purchase. It's a genuine print, which I found at a flea market in New York. When I bought it, the guy was like 'Yeah it's some kind of famous supermodel'. Afterwards I searched online and discovered it's by Patrick Demarchelier. I got it for \$20. It shows how it's always worth going to vintage markets wherever you travel.

The lounge looks like such a great room. The lounge is the centrepiece of our home, the place that I come to really relax.

It's at the heart of the apartment, with a big wide opening to the dining room, and gives a really airy feeling to the space. The light is amazing, and we're the only apartment in the building to have a round window, which gives it an extra decorative element that we love. We chose the sofa because we wanted something unusual, and we really liked this design with different modular sections you can put together.

What does your art collection mean to you? Much of my collection is very personal, with pictures by my aunt, or by my son. It's amazing to be surrounded by works that both inspire you, and also give you immediate memories.

Which is your favourite room in the apartment? Each of the rooms is my favourite in its own way. I love how the look and feel of the rooms has evolved over the years, so that each space is a mix of functionality, character and also pleasing design. I am always bringing back new pieces from H&M Home that add fresh interest and a new design twist. And the pieces that spark memories are some of my most important possessions. To me, the apartment feels alive, as if it has its own character and is part of the family itself. **10**

To see more of the H&M Home collection, visit hm.com/au/departments/HOME.



budget buy

A simple pendant lamp is all that's needed to light up this eat-in space. Try the silver glass pendant light, \$131, Hampton & Harlow, sterlingdesign.com.au.

KITCHEN This eat-in spot in the cooking zone allows for casual family meals. It sits opposite framed glass cabinets, original to the 1920s building, filled with glassware and white crockery. The table is made of a second-hand buy with a new marble top. Gubi '5' chairs in grey with walnut legs echo the tones of the marble tabletop and parquet floor.



star performer

We're fans of a beautiful bed, and Evelina's is no exception. The key to success here is in the soft layering and committing to a colour palette - the cushions and throw introduce pattern but still fit in with the overall shades-of-grey vibe.



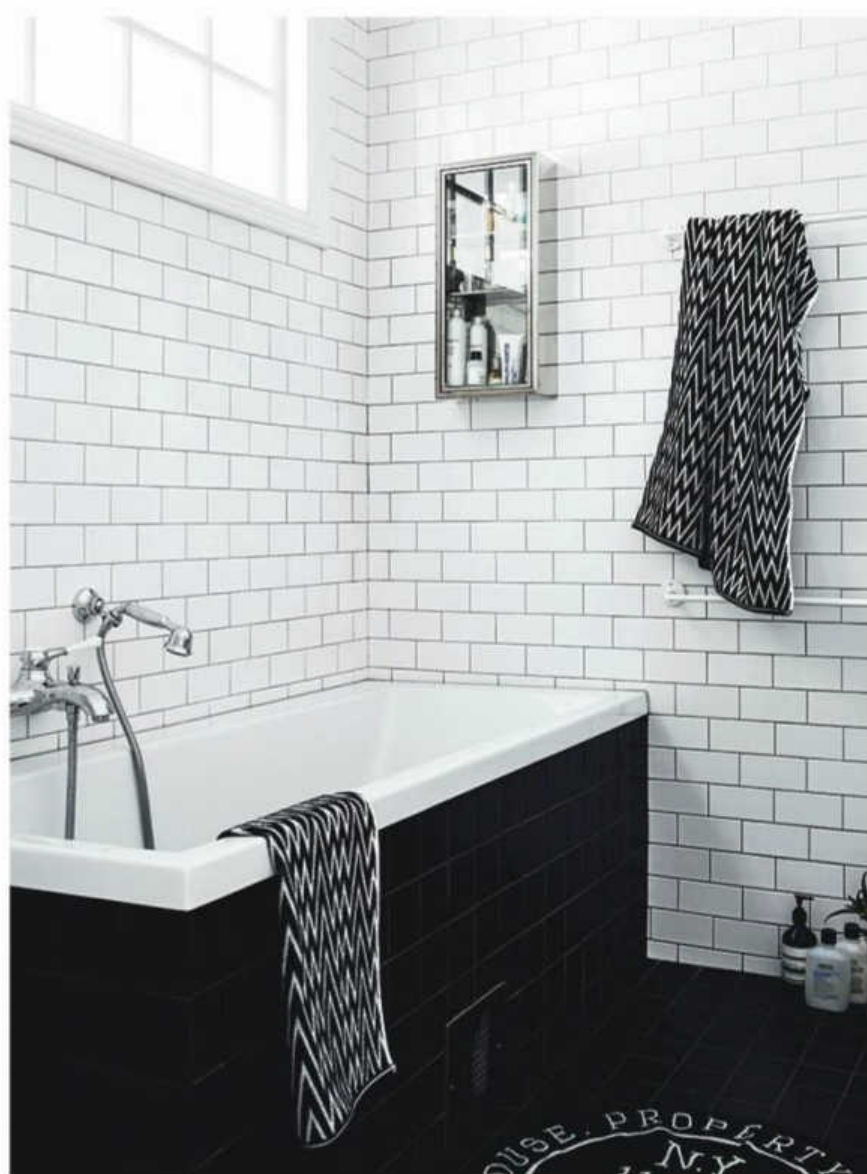
“Home is a sanctuary, and it’s a place for celebration and sharing”

EVELINA KRAVAEV SÖDERBERG, HOMEOWNER



MASTER BEDROOM (left) A timeless mix of light grey, charcoal and white create a sense of calm in this room. The linen and cushions are all from H&M Home. "The Maison Martin Margiela print is the exhibition poster from MoMu in Antwerp," says Evelina.

BATHROOM (below) "We wanted it to be white and tiled, and simple, relaxing and calming," says Evelina of the zone.



INSIDE overseas inspiration



coast watch

AFTER SCOUTING THE ULTIMATE LOCATION FOR THEIR SOUTH AFRICAN FAMILY HOME, A COUPLE BUILT IT IN A RELAXED CONTEMPORARY STYLE

WORDS ALMA VIVIERS/BUREAUX.CO.ZA

PRODUCTION SVEN ALBERDING/BUREAUX.CO.ZA PHOTOGRAPHY WARREN HEATH/BUREAUX.CO.ZA



OUTDOORS (opposite) They say you can't always get what you want, but owners Rob and Gina came close with their beautiful house in South Africa. Playing to the stunning surrounds, the home's deck and pool area make the perfect viewing spot. **DINING AREA** This space, too, was designed to make the most of the striking vista.

cheat sheet

Who lives here: Husband and wife Rob and Gina McClelland, owners of production company 2Productions (2prod.com); daughters Meeca, 11; and Hannah, 7; and dogs Amstil, Max and Texan.

Style of house: A nine-bedroom, nine-bathroom contemporary, clapboard-clad timber house that echoes the relaxed feel of the seaside location on South Africa's west coast.

PORTRAIT Owners Rob and Gina, pictured with Amstil the dog, were able to create a home that not only ticked off all the points on their wishlist but also paid respect to the beachy location, while leaving nautical clichés at the door.



When Rob and Gina McClelland began the search for a piece of land to build a second family home, the wishlist was long. They wanted plenty of space for their daughters, Meeca and Hannah, and three dogs to run around and they wanted to be within commuting distance of South Africa's Cape Town and their beachside farm on the west coast in the comparatively remote Elands Bay. The former models also wanted to be able to use the house and surrounding land as a shoot location for their production company, 2Productions, which called for uninterrupted sea views, great light and a scenic backdrop.

They narrowed the hunt to another section of the west coast. "We love it here. It's a really special place where you feel there's an adventure to be had," says Rob. "There's a wildness to it and the off-shore winds make for great surfing." And so the couple finally found a place to realise their dream at Grotto Bay Estate, which forms part of the Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve, where the natural beauty, biodiversity, history and culture are protected by law.

The site sits on the south side of the bay, giving it a key advantage over other local properties – the ability to orientate the house to the north without compromising on the outlook. "You get good

light but not the severe heat of an east-west orientation," says Rob. "I envisaged a house that would progressively 'step back' to let in as much northern light as possible and to maximise the sea views."

The area is governed by an aesthetic building code that restricts building height to six metres and allows for three styles of house: 'farm' style, 'west coast' style and 'beach' style. Working within these parameters, the couple knew from the start that they wanted to create a contemporary, clapboard-clad timber house that spoke of calm and carefree seaside living.

Rob approached architectural designer Alan Paine of Logo Homes to translate this vision into reality. Alan's plans positioned the living spaces at the heart of the home, with a lofty double-height volume adding to the finished house's airy feel. Once the plans were ready, the 15-month construction period went fairly smoothly, with the only challenge being the amount of sand that had to be moved. "The advice I can give for those building on sand is 'If in doubt, add more steel'," says Rob.

Gina then focused on the interiors. Instead of opting for the blue-and-white colour palette that tends to go hand in hand with coastal homes, she reflected the natural feel of the surroundings. The all-white painted surfaces add to the sense of openness with

“We love it here. It’s a really special place where you feel there’s an adventure to be had”

ROB McCLELLAND, HOMEOWNER



KITCHEN This space, like the rest of the home, is bathed in natural light, which is maximised with the overarching white palette. Despite the commitment to the tone, the home avoids a clinical feel due to the addition of warm timber and textural pendant lights.



bi-fold shutter doors opening up to the decks fringing the house. The crisp palette is punctuated with textures of timber in all its forms; from wind-worn and weathered, honed and handcrafted to more finely finished. More natural details, such as woven-grass and rattan furnishings, bring warmth to the light-filled home.

But perfecting the interiors would have been pointless if the incredible location wasn't capitalised on. Ensuring the outdoors celebrated the views without interrupting them was key to the zone's success. Rob wanted an infinity pool, to create the illusion of the water and the ocean merging, but this proved a little tricky. "When I explained this idea to the pool people, they gave me a blank stare, so I ended up designing and building it myself," he says. "A building team constructed a steel framework in the shape I wanted, filled it in with concrete and finished it in a sandy colour."

With all the hard work behind them, Rob and Gina are now free to enjoy their home. Rob's favourite spot is the kitchen where the shared zones come together in an open-plan entertaining area that spills onto the deck. "Because we're on a slope it means when you're standing at the kitchen counter you are eye-level with the landscape, and if you sit on the other side you can bake in the morning sun like a lizard." What a way to start the day. **10**

For more info on Logo Homes, visit logohomes.co.za.

DECK (left) Smart layout planning lets the family enjoy an ocean view from the counter - a lovely spot for breakfast. **LIVING AREA (above and opposite)** Cool and breezy just as any beach house should be, natural textures, such as seagrass, reflect the setting and add interest.

"I envisaged a house that would progressively 'step back' to let in as much light as possible"

ROB McCLELLAND, HOMEOWNER



star performer

With building restrictions to contend with, Rob and Gina's stroke-of-genius idea of adding a double volume to the entertaining zone brings in an open, light-filled vibe.



paint match

All white everything rings true in this home. Try 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior paint in Winter Chic, \$56.90/4L, British Paints, 132 525.



MASTER BEDROOM (above)

A four-poster bed made from salvaged timber gives the space a sense of relaxed grandeur.

FACADE (left) A panoramic shot gives away the impressive scale of the design. It encapsulates relaxed coastal style perfectly. **OUTDOORS (opposite)** A shower area made

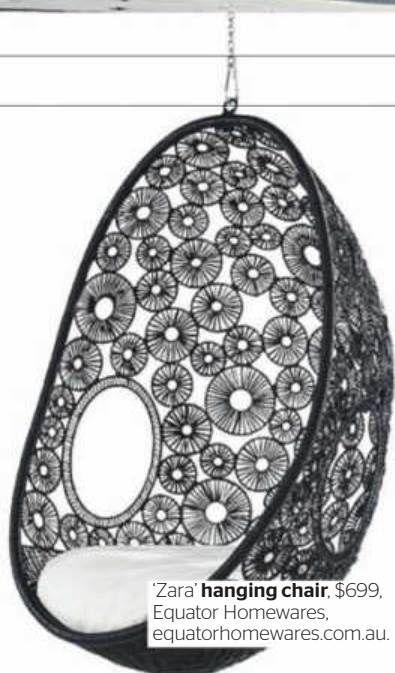
from timber sleepers stops the salt and sand making its way in.

3 outdoor chairs



Kenneth Cobonpue 'Balou' armchair, from \$2490.40, and ottoman, \$1092, Ke-Zu, kezu.com.au.

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT SOURCING: DANIELLE SELIG. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



'Zara' **hanging chair**, \$699, Equator Homewares, equatorhomewares.com.au.



'Lagoon' **chair**, \$1350, HK Living Australia, hkliving.com.au.

5 GREAT FINDS

1

'Lozi' African **mortars**, \$520 (unpainted), \$420 each (painted), Orient House, orienthouse.com.au.



Tall rattan **pendant light**, \$325, Weylands, weylants.com.au.



'Ng'ombe' African **milk pail**, \$245, After Online, afteronline.com.au.

4

'Serengeti Weave' **rug** in Natural/Ivory, \$268/sqm, Armadillo&Co, armadillo-co.com.



5

'Fringe' **cushion** \$240, Jardan, jardan.com.au.



DREAM IT. DESIGN IT. DO IT.

out of the box

Despite building this beach house to sell, one couple's attention to detail has created a real home

WORDS CLARE PATIENCE

STYLING MIM DESIGN PHOTOGRAPHY SHARYN CAIRNS



VEGA ARTWORK BY KIRRA JAMISON. SOPHIE GANNON GALLERY. SOPHIEGANNONGALLERY.COM.AU.
ARTWORK (NEXT PAGE) BY KRISTIAN VAN DER BEEK. KRISTIANBEEK.COM

KITCHEN Couple Rowan and Lizie wanted to put a modern spin on this beach house. Given the proximity to the Victorian coastline, it seemed almost auspicious that the home's statement stone, seen here on the kitchen island and splashback, is called Portsea Grey from CDK Stone. Lizie picked it to help the wooden cabinetry appear to float and add warmth.



Who built it: Project manager Rowan Findlay and wife Lizie Clifton, project manager at Pure Products and SugarBaby International (sugarbaby.com.au); with architect Rohan Riley (rr-id.com.au); and interior designers Miriam Fanning and Kristiina Morgan of Mim Design (mimdesign.com.au).

Style of house: "It's a black box," says Lizie. Built for sale, the modern masterpiece is a four-bedroom coastal home with a swimming pool, and a smart contemporary feel.



The house took around 10 months to complete and was sold within weeks of hitting the market. "The budget went out the window early on," says Lizie. "For us, it wasn't about the spend, it was about creating a space that worked well, something we could be proud of."





central kitchen One of the key elements of the design was the positioning of the kitchen. Designer Miriam thinks it's the best room in the house. "It delivers a working hub and meeting space, with vantage points from all zones," she says.



DEFINED STYLE

Sometimes the hardest choice with building or renovating is deciding on the style of house you want to create: mid-century or modern contemporary? Or perhaps you're considering a look with French farmhouse influences? For Lizzie and Rowan, part of the joy of building to sell is that they get to experiment with all sorts of architectural eras through their impressive portfolio of beach homes.

For this project, it was all about exploring the beauty of sleek modernism. "I really wanted this to be a solid form set against the stunning natural landscape," says Lizzie. "We had already built a Hamptons-inspired beach house next door, and I wanted this to be really different but to sit comfortably with the other home."

LIVING AREA (above) The black-framed windows were a major part of the design brief and draw in natural greenery to complement the home's grey and white palette. The open-plan room uses an L-shaped sofa from Coastal Living to create a sense of intimacy with the living area.

the woodboard



DREAM IT.

Lizie and Rowan purchased the land the home now sits on many years ago, subdividing it to make room for three distinctly different properties close to the Victorian coastline. "With this project, I really wanted something sleek and modern," explains Lizie. Whenever she thought about the design of this house, she imagined herself in the living/dining area, surrounded by large windows and a sophisticated interior that offered comfort and relaxation.

She also visualised a home that avoided all the usual seaside stereotypes. With interiors team Mim Design in place and with Rowan at the helm as builder/project manager, Lizie started out on a new kind of beach-house build – but one that still prioritised family living and had holiday entertaining in mind.

Lizie and Rowan's wishlist

- + large open-plan spaces** We want the home to have a communal feel and encourage interaction around the living and dining area
- + contrast** A black exterior and muted colour scheme inside will help highlight the greenery of the surroundings
- + natural materials** The pared-back palette needs warmth, courtesy of the texture and tones of natural stones, timbers and concrete
- + huge windows** Taking advantage of the light and ensuring the scenery is the focus of the home
- + understated luxury** The aim is to create a house that makes you want to take off your shoes and relax



joinery

The timber-lined board detailing flows through the house. "It was designed to be practical and provides a decorative element to each of the rooms," says Miriam. A two-toned paint treatment was used to help the TV blend more smoothly with the wall.





pale shades

The beauty of the surroundings informed the choice of a more subtle colour scheme. By sticking with greys, whites and hints of pastel dotted here and there, the home stands as an elegant backdrop to the green coastal landscape outdoors.

DESIGN IT.

In the beginning, the beach house was to be a two-storey home. Lizie and Rowan wanted to capitalise on the views, and thought going up was the most logical decision. "Then we realised that we needed to consider the privacy of the adjoining properties," says Lizie.

After taking the project to Mim Design for an interiors consultation, a new design took shape. "We suggested dividing the L-shaped layout into separate spaces for adults and children," says Miriam. The new design centred on the idea of two wings – one with cooking, living, dining and master suite; the other with children's bedrooms and a rumpus room. "We had to make sure the home adapted to short- and long-term stays, and also encouraged a sense of close-knit family living, despite the scale of the design," says Miriam.

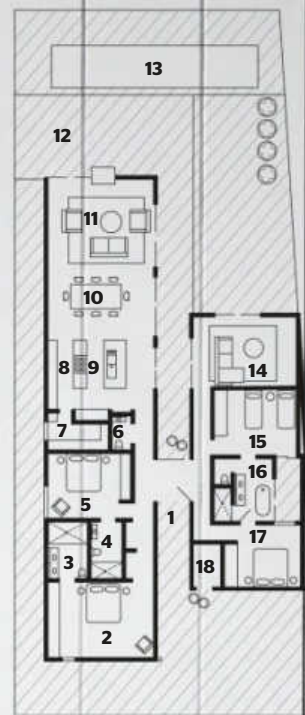
Lizie's design brief was for the beach house not to be "too beachy" and what the Mim Design team came up with in response was exactly what she had hoped for. "One of the best parts of these projects is

sitting down and seeing how Miriam and Kristiina decide to play it. I love the presentation of ideas, it's always breathtaking," says Lizie. "Working with the Mim Design team is like stepping into a one-stop shop – they know where to find everything."

The trick to this project's success was counterbalancing the home's black exterior cladding with textural finishes inside, such as super-soft knotted-wool carpets, slatted wall panels, wooden veneer shelving, powdercoated door handles and natural stone benches, all in a soft palette of grey, pebble, ivory, pumice and black. For Miriam, it was a process of understanding how the home would be used and creating moments for each space. "Every room needed to have its own aspect, whether it's the garden, outdoor entertaining area and pool, artwork, or the custom joinery on show throughout," says Miriam. "We achieved this through in-depth planning and positioning of key features."



BEDROOM Interior designer Miriam was careful to ensure each room had an aspect, such as a window or an artwork. In this room, a little nook has been added as a cosy reading spot. The texture of the carpet from Cavalier Bremworth brings depth to the muted colour palette, with the panelling also bringing another layer of texture.



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Entry | 10. Dining area |
| 2. Master bedroom | 11. Living area |
| 3. Ensuite | 12. Outdoor dining |
| 4. Ensuite | 13. Swimming pool |
| 5. Bedroom | 14. Rumpus room |
| 6. Powder room | 15. Bedroom |
| 7. Laundry | 16. Bathroom |
| 8. Butler's pantry | 17. Bedroom |
| 9. Kitchen | 18. Storage |



DO IT.

This home was the second of three projects planned for the subdivided land, and Rowan took control of the build. "I'd go to the site twice a week and tee up meetings with the builder over the weekend," he says. "I was on the phone multiple times each day and took photos to send back and forth – a great tool when you can't be there."

With so much experience, Rowan and Lizzie knew it was all about using their team to ensure the process worked seamlessly. "The biggest lesson for building to sell is to surround yourself with like-minded people," says Lizzie. "If you're working with architects, interior designers and builders that understand and inspire you, then the end result will be fabulous. If you're not seeing eye to eye then perhaps the choice of partners isn't the best for you."

The project wrapped up in about 10 months, and the most heartbreaking aspect of the experience was how fast it sold. "I barely had time to enjoy it," says Lizzie. "It was snapped up pretty quickly and I only had a few moments in the finished space." Although, she did feel creative satisfaction when she finally walked into the living area and saw the huge windows, soft grey finishes and the open-plan space come together. "It was so perfect," she says. "I had been imagining it for so long, then suddenly it was real." **10**



BATHROOM (above) "From the handmade tiles from De Fazio, to the custom vanities, mirrors and joinery, everything is refined but with an artisan sensibility," says Miriam.
MASTER SUITE (opposite) This retreat is tucked up one end of the home as a break from busy zones.



laundry Tucked beside the butler's pantry, the laundry offers maximum storage thanks to custom joinery, though still benefits from lots of natural light via a window. The signature stone is also carried through this space.



the best bits

- + **sweet success** The house ticked off all the points in the brief perfectly. The team worked together well to deliver the finished product Lizzie and Rowan had envisaged.
- + **smart layout** "The home's floorplan was a perfect balance of proportion, scale and comfort," says Lizzie.
- + **lovely finishes** "They exude a soft yet modern feel."
- + **the hub of the home** "The kitchen is the hub of the house – it feels modern and approachable in every way and has a beautiful external outlook."





THE CAMPBELL FAMILY

The home is lovely and light, but the family is hoping to open up the zones a little more.



renovation 101

1950s brick home

This family home has some beautiful qualities however, it hasn't adapted well and it's starting to feel a little jaded. Our Panel looks at bringing it back to life

WORDS **CARRIE HUTCHINSON** PHOTOGRAPHY **LAUREN BAMFORD**



The house has some 1950s elements that add character, but other details are somewhat tired.



WHAT NEEDS TO GO

Here's what Rebecca and Bruce don't like about the home at the moment

- ☒ that dead space right in the centre of the house
- ☒ the master bedroom at the back of the house is a bit cold
- ☒ the original joinery and cupboards in the bedrooms - they're too small and outdated



CHEAT SHEET

Who lives here: Rebecca Campbell, a social worker; her husband, Bruce, a financial director; and their kids, Hamish 14, and Eliza, 12; as well as Scout the dog and Myrtle the cat.

Style of house: A late 1950s home in Melbourne's Blackburn. The three-bedroom, single-storey house has lovely curves and high ceilings. Additions include a back extension and a bolted-on carport.

the story so far

The Campbells bought the house and moved in about five years ago. Now, with Hamish and Eliza getting older, the family feel they're starting to outgrow it. There's the option of moving but they really love the area and are keen to stay.

what's not working?

The floorplan is muddled in that there's a dining room right in the middle of the house and, while it is used, it feels a little wasted. The back of the house has a semi open-plan feel, but it's dark and little used – instead, the kids watch TV and hang out in the sunny front living room. On a side note, the old bathroom is also outdated.

what do they need?

The rooms need to be rearranged slightly to make better use of the space, a third bathroom has to be added, and the whole place could do with a spruce. Ideally, the family would like a pool and entertaining area in the backyard.



THE REALTOR

Bob Steventon

Senior sales consultant,
Noel Jones, noeljones.com.au

the area

Situated about 18 kilometres from Melbourne's CBD, this is an area much in demand, particularly among young families, according to Bob. There are good

schools in the area and the neighbouring Blackburn Lake Sanctuary is a bit like having a 20-hectare backyard, complete with lakes and wildlife.

the checklist

Obviously, you want to appeal to families with kids of all ages. "A second bathroom is a must and you'd want to have two distinct living areas," says Bob, both of which the Campbells have. While Bob can see the attraction of the pool, if the budget is getting tight that'd be the first thing to go. "Pools are really just a nice extra," says Bob. "If someone is specifically looking for a pool then they may pay a bit more for a house, but it doesn't really add value."

the opportunity

Bob says to keep the special 1950s detailing where possible, but creating a contemporary interior works for the market. Adding a fourth bedroom with an ensuite, updating the kitchen and other bedrooms, and having that coveted open-plan living space at the back of the house will certainly make the Campbells' house a more attractive proposition for the majority of buyers.



THE BUDGET

\$440k

That includes the pool, but Bruce and Rebecca could save about \$80k if they decided to just do a bit of landscaping in the backyard. Either way, Bob thinks they could probably expect to get about \$1.5 million if they put the house on the market after finishing the reno – that's about \$500k more than if they sold it as it is right now.



THE ARCHITECT

Andrew Benn
Director, Benn + Penna
Architecture,
bennandpenna.com

sorting out the maze

Andrew is quick to point out the issues with the entry. There are two hallways

after you enter – bedrooms lead off one, and the dining room and kitchen off another. “You don’t get a clear sense of where you need to go,” says Andrew. He suggests creating one big space that incorporates what is now the dining room, kitchen and rear living area. “Knocking out the wall on entry means you could see through the window and out to the garden,” he says. “You could also see a galley kitchen with an island bench in front of it, although the space is wide enough that you wouldn’t feel as if you were walking directly into the kitchen.”

bedroom upgrade

The kids’ rooms require proper wardrobes, but it’s the master bedroom most in need of love. There was an idea to turn the old garage in the backyard – currently used for storage – into a teenagers’ retreat, but Andrew thinks they’d need to spend too much to make it livable. ‘Get rid of it’ is the call. In its place he’d add a modern ‘pod’, connected to the house via a new corridor through the old toilet, with master bedroom, ensuite and robe. Keep the windows big, and you could look into both the front and rear yards. “On the house, I’d have all the details around the windows in a charcoal and make the pod the same colour for continuity,” says Andrew.

the lead in

The house’s plain facade isn’t helped by the concrete, an added-on carport and no clear path to the front door. Rather than being face-on, the steps up to the patio come from the side, so it becomes even more confusing when the cars are parked. Andrew suggests replacing the carport with a detached version, removing the awning, moving the door to face the street and having the stairs running straight to it to create an obvious entrance. “I’d also build a planter on the end of the patio,” says Andrew. “The plants would separate it from the carport and would add privacy to the front bedroom.”

“Remember to go darker for exterior tones because the sun will lighten them”



THE STYLIST

Lisa Koehler
ISCD educator, stylist
and interior decorator

reclaiming the space

As the Panel arrives, the kids are hanging out in the front living room. “It’s a living area that doesn’t really know what it is,”

says Rebecca. With a beautiful fireplace and curved window, it would be ideal for relaxing, but the TV is in there, so that’s where the kids want to spend most of their time. The solution is easy: “Move the TV down to the back of the house into the second living area,” says Lisa.

street appeal

The home’s exterior is all a bit beige and can be easily fixed as the guttering and fascia need to be addressed, too. Lisa suggests looking at Colorbond swatches (colorbond.com) and choosing a khaki or a dark grey for contrast. “Remember to go darker for exterior tones because the sun will lighten them,” she says. “Paint large swatches no smaller than a square metre. The light will be different from all sides, so check the colour from all orientations. It’s good to see how it behaves before investing in painting.”

on the fence

If you’re putting in a pool, you also need a fence. While frameless glass is a good option, Lisa thinks the look might be too modern. The fence needs to work with the elements surrounding it and, as much as possible, not create two independent spaces. A fence made of thin, black steel rods will work with Rebecca and Bruce’s garden.



1. The Beach People ‘Palm Springs’ towel, \$110, St Barts, st-barts.com.au. 2. ‘Batur’ stone, from \$750, Parterre, (02) 9310 7400. 3. ‘Lady Peacock’ chair, \$795, The Family Love Tree, thefamilylovetree.com.au. 4. ‘Fatso’ outdoor sofa, \$9300, Robert Plumb, robertplumb.com.au. 5. ‘Ottoman Hamam’ towel, \$150, St Barts, as before. 6. ‘Palm Tree’ planter, \$295, The Family Love Tree, as before.



5

6



THE APPLIANCE SPECIALIST

Mark Elmore

General manager of design integration, Fisher & Paykel, fisherpaykel.com.au

smart choices

If the removal of walls goes ahead, the open-plan home should include smart appliances to maximise space. "Because this is a family home, the Campbells might want to think about installing a double oven – even if they're not into entertaining at home themselves, it should appeal to future buyers," says Mark. "In a kitchen that sits within the living area, as this one will, you don't want to be overcome by cooking smells, so ventilation – both natural and assisted – is really important. The latest rangehoods are 'silent' so you don't have to raise your voice while it's in action, and built-in halogen lights will brighten the whole cooking area."

cooler options

Appliances are one of the most important factors when planning a kitchen and integrating these essentials seamlessly with the rest of the cabinetry forms a sleek modern look. "Fisher & Paykel offers new flush-fit built-in refrigerators that can be designed to complement your overall finish," says Mark. And when you're renovating for a family with teens, the fridge is going to be a focal point. "Our ActiveSmart™ refrigerators come in a family-size French-door model," says Mark. "There's a built-in microprocessor that controls how the fridge operates based on how the family uses it."



'HC90DCXB1' 90cm wall canopy **rangehood**, \$1099; 'RF610ADUSX5 ActiveSmart™' French-door **fridge** with ice and water, \$3599; and 'DD60D17 DishDrawer™' 60cm integrated **dishwasher**, \$1949, all Fisher & Paykel, fisherpaykel.com.au.



THE BUILDER

Wayd Munro

Focusbuild, focusbuild.com.au

from the top

Creating one big room from many comes with issues, mainly the fact you're taking out load-bearing walls.

Wayd suggests putting all the steelwork into the ceiling space: "There's a bit of thinking and building work involved, but it's really achievable," he says. There's a cornice around some of the rooms that is original and quite unusual. With all the rooms removed, the Campbells would need to decide whether they have it re-created – not too tricky – or replace it with a more modern one.

...to the bottom

At ground level, there are beautiful Victorian ash floors in the front half of the house, but when Bruce and Rebecca ripped up the carpet after moving in, they discovered it didn't go all the way through – there was chipboard under the area out the back. Luckily, Victorian ash is still available and a good builder will blend the new flooring in with the old to disguise the join. There are also some minimal dips in the floor – not unusual in an older house – so Wayd would repack the flooring framing to get rid of most of them where possible.

take a dip

The family is keen to add a pool but there are things to consider before the reno starts. There'd be a lot of dirt to get rid of so some thought will have to go into moving it all to the front for removal off site. The sunny back corner is the ideal spot. "A black-tiled pool will get the water to an average temperature of mid to high 20s in summer, and will extend your swimming time by about three months," says Wayd. "There's also a new solar-panelling system that takes up 40 per cent less space on the roof than the old rubber style and has better longevity." He also recommends a hardwood turpentine deck as an entertaining area.



THE TIMEFRAME

The Campbells should look for somewhere to stay for about eight months, although if everything goes to plan it could take a little less time.

renovation 101 calling in an expert

Not ready to renovate your whole home? Our architect Andrew



Watching *Grand Designs*, you might assume most people would only hire an architect to design their whole house. The idea of using such a highly qualified professional for a small project might never have crossed your mind. Even if it has, you might wonder if it's worth asking an architect to redesign your kitchen or bathroom, or turn your downstairs powder room into a laundry. Would they turn up their noses at your piddling little project? What can they offer that a kitchen or bathroom designer from one of the big retailers can't?

Andrew Benn has been doing alterations and additions to people's homes for more than 20 years, the past six for his own Sydney-based practice, Benn + Penna Architecture (bennandpenna.com). "Well over half of our work comprises alterations to residential homes, and for years my bread and butter has been smaller jobs, such as kitchens and bathrooms," he says. Here's why he thinks it's worth choosing an architect for those small but important jobs.

the big picture

Andrew says it's often difficult for homeowners to see the impact small renovations can have on the home. If the owners want to update the kitchen or bathroom before starting on the rest of the property, it's best to have an overall plan for how they want it to look eventually. "It's important to get a handle on the building as a whole. You need to have a vision for how all the spaces come together," he says. "If you go to a kitchen company, they'll only look at the kitchen, but the crossover between spaces is absolutely critical. Whichever room you redesign will have an impact on the whole house."

Andrew always suggests looking at the surrounding spaces – such as the living/dining area and even the garden. "The kitchen has come a long way in the past 30 years, and it's rarely isolated any more – it's usually part of the living area, which spills into the garden, so all these zones need to be taken into account."

won't that break my budget?

Wherever possible, Andrew comes up with a master plan that takes in the area surrounding the small project, or ideally the whole house – but that doesn't mean you need to worry about having to do all the work immediately. "You can decide what you end up building later, but at this early stage we're just setting a direction," says Andrew. "Once you have that, you can refer back to it when you proceed with the other alterations." This will also prove far more cost effective than designing the home piecemeal at different stages. "The architectural design is a small component of the whole budget, so it's worth investing at the early stages if you can," says Andrew.

Equally, you can hire an architect for just a few hours. "Sometimes, I'll go to a property and give the owner broad feedback on what they can and can't do, and then charge them an hourly rate. Or, if a client needs more input, we often do some hand sketches and compile images that suggest an overall look," he says. "At the most involved level, we'll put together a full construction and tender documentation set, with detailed measurements and specifications for the builder

for this, our fees are often set as a fixed price. We'll also suggest builders we've worked with and know will do a good job, taking another load off the owner's mind."

for a smaller job

explains why a small project needs special attention WORDS NIGEL BARTLETT

understanding your lifestyle

"A typical architect will involve you in a highly consultative process," says Andrew. "Kitchen manufacturers are often driven by getting to the end result as quickly as they can. They usually offer outcomes that they're very familiar with." In contrast, a good architect will visit the property and chat to the owners, finding out as much information as they can. "Owners' personal interests need to be heard and effectively integrated," says Andrew. "That way, the architect can give a very tailored response. We ask lots of questions at the early stage; for example how and when the owners use the space, whether they're morning or afternoon people, how they entertain – those details are important."

older homes require special care

Designing a modern home from scratch may seem like the hardest project for an architect, but Andrew says that it's relatively easy compared to making alterations to an older building, even with small tasks. "You have to know how old buildings were built and be able to effectively integrate 100-year-old construction techniques," he says. Things are more complex with a heritage-listed property: you need to be across exactly what you can and can't do, and whether permission is needed. "Anything you do to a heritage-listed property needs to be checked by council, so even relatively small changes must be submitted formally for approval," says Andrew. "There are lots of rules and regulations, and a good architect will be able to negotiate with council for you."

don't be shy about asking

Architects often take on smaller jobs. "There seems to be an expectation that we only do the big stuff, and that's not the case," says Andrew. "Small projects can be tricky and need quite a bit of knowledge. Our job is hands-on and practical, dealing with things that are very small scale, such as where to position a light switch or toilet-roll holder." A good architect will also avoid 'archi-speak'. "If you don't know what an architect is talking about, ask them to explain things in basic terms. You need to know exactly what they have in mind for your home and why, so you can be sure you'll get what you want." **10**

how to approach an architect

1 It's fine to go along with no clear idea of what you want. A good architect will advise you, make suggestions and guide you towards a vision you'll love.

2 Bring along a scrapbook of ideas. Cut out pictures from magazines, print images from websites and blogs, or take a tablet or laptop so you can show your Pinterest picks or online clipboard with design inspiration.

3 Don't assume you have a greater knowledge than the architect. "Some people think they know more than they actually do about building techniques, materials and so on," says Andrew. "Or they'll say, 'We've done all this preliminary work, we just need you to do the drawings for us'. If this is the case, then I'd suggest they're better off with a draughtsman, otherwise they're engaging the architect as the professional but missing the opportunity of having them think creatively and laterally." For help finding an architect, try the Australian Institute of Architects website at architecture.com.au.

BUYER'S GUIDE



televisions

What's on the box? New innovations mean crisper pictures and even more choice of what to watch. Here are the details to look for when you're selecting a new TV

WORDS KATHERINE CHATFIELD

OLED, UHD, 4K the acronyms alone are enough to confuse those of us on the lookout for a new television. With the latest technological advances offering superb images and extraordinary sound, and an abundance of video streaming services now available, it's the perfect time to consider getting a brand new TV. But how do you separate one acronym TV type from another? Resume normal programming as we demystify what next-gen TVs bring to your movie nights.

OLED

Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) TVs are the newest way to get incredible picture quality. Conventional LED or LCD TVs backlight the whole of the screen, so the screen is never totally black even when it's meant to be. But OLED screens have pixels that switch on and off individually, only producing light where it's required meaning the colour and contrast are far superior. "Imagine standing in the outback, looking up into a dark night sky and seeing the stars shine so brightly," says LG Home Electronics marketing manager, Grant Vandenberg.

"Then imagine standing in the city, with all the added lighting and looking in to the same sky. The stars are all still up there, but they lack the same lustre. This is exactly why OLED technology is so special. From a background of perfect black, you get amazingly vivid colour." This technology also allows screens to be very thin and flexible, but because it's new it can be expensive. At the moment, LG produces the only OLED TVs available in Australia. Panasonic and Sony are both due to release OLED models, but not until early next year.

Ultra HD or 4K

Ultra High Definition (Ultra HD or UHD) is also known as 4K because these screens have four times as many pixels as standard HD TVs. Widely agreed to be the future of television, UHD is "one of the most exciting movements we have seen in the TV market in our time", says Samsung Electronics Australia vice president and chief marketing officer, Philip Newton. "It represents the combination of amazing panel and pixel technology coming together with great production techniques from Hollywood studios to produce a stunning experience in the home."



Creating your own home theatre has never been easier or more innovative - this elegant living area by Finesse Built (finessebuilt.com.au) is a prime example.

The downside? At the moment, there isn't much 4K content out there, so you might not get the most of the colour and clarity that UHD can provide on everything you watch. But if you're looking for a somewhat future-proof TV, it's worth investing in UHD. 4K content is definitely on the increase - Netflix and YouTube 4K both offer some 4K content in Australia, and Netflix has committed to making all new content in UHD.

curved screens

Unlike the old curved TVs, these new screens subtly curve inwards instead of outwards. "They are designed to complement the curvature of the eye," says Philip. This makes every pixel an equal distance from your eyes, meaning the picture gives "real perception of depth and a different feeling to a flat panel". However, be warned; to get the benefits, you have to sit almost immediately in front of a curved screen. If you sit more than 35 degrees to the side of the TV, the curve affects your perception of the image - it can look as though the picture is distorted, with the image compressed in the middle and then seemingly getting larger at the end furthest away from you.

UHD or 4K TVs

The TVs of the future - invest in one now for optimum viewing with an ever-increasing range of quality entertainment content available



Designed with Harmon/Kardon audio for exceptional sound quality. **'55UF850T' 55" 4K Ultra HD TV**, \$2899, LG, lg.com/au.



This model is Android compatible. **'KD65X8500C' 65" 4K Ultra HD LED Smart 3D with Android TV**, \$4799, Sony, sony.com.au.



The narrow gunmetal edge makes this a chic choice. **Panasonic 'Viera TH65CX740A' 65" 4K Ultra HD TV**, \$2995, Harvey Norman, harveynorman.com.au.



Triluminos Display allows realistic images and vivid colour. **Sony 'Bravia KD65X9300C' 65" 4K Ultra HD LED Smart 3D with Android TV**, \$4297, Harvey Norman, as before.

OLED TVs

If you're looking for exceptional colour and crystal-clear image clarity, OLED is the way to go



This OLED TV also offers a curved view to suit the natural curvature of the eye. **'55EC930T' 55" curved OLED TV**, \$3699, LG, lg.com/au.



LG is the only company offering OLED TVs in Australia at the moment. **'55EG930T' 55" 4K UHD OLED TV**, \$5499, LG, as before.

smart TVs

Link your smart TV to your phone and control your viewing from wherever you are at, whatever stage you're up to



This model offers a surround-sound theatre experience. **'KD65X8500C' 65" 4K Ultra HD LED Smart 3D with Android TV**, \$4799, Sony, sony.com.au.



This TV has built-in Netflix and FreeviewPlus compatibility. **'K321 Series 50K321UW' 50" UHD LED Smart TV**, \$1195, HiSense, hisense.com.au.

curved screens

Test this option before you buy to ensure you have space at your place to make the most of the experience



This smart TV offers immersive viewing. **'Series 9 JS9000' 65" 4K SUHD curved TV**, \$6299, Samsung, samsung.com/au.



This model combines OLED with a curved look. **LG '65EG960T' 65" 4K Ultra HD OLED 3D smart curved TV**, \$8495, Harvey Norman, harveynorman.com.au.



An affordable curved option. **'T810 Series 65T810UAD' 65" UHD LED Vision curved TV**, \$2995, Hisense, hisense.com.au.



If you're after a big screen, it's hard to go past this one. **'Series 7 JU7000' 78" 4K UHD LED curved TV**, \$9499, Samsung, as before.

GET SMART

If you want your phone and tablet to talk to your television, you need a smart (internet enabled) TV. Check that the TV you buy is compatible with your existing phone or tablet; for example, some TVs only work with Android phones, so ask when you're buying to ensure you'll be able to set up an 'ecosystem' that works for you. Also, Samsung, LG, Panasonic and Sony models all run on different operating systems, so make sure you've checked the applications you use on your phone or tablet will work on the big screen in your house.

Once you're set up, the possibilities are endless; share photos and videos from your phone on the TV, stream live TV to your tablet or phone, or even start watching a film at home, set it to record and continue to watch where you left off when you're out and about. Most smart TVs also let you use your phone as a remote control, meaning one less device cluttering up the lounge room.

STREAM AWAY

Video streaming on smart TVs is so easy that Panasonic even has a Netflix button on its remote controls. But if you don't have a smart TV, you can still subscribe to one of the many streaming services available. Netflix (netflix.com/au), Foxtel Play (foxtel.com.au/foxtelplay), Presto (presto.com.au), QuickFlix (quickflix.com.au), and Stan (stan.com.au) all stream TV shows and films, and play through your PC or Mac, tablet or phone. Netflix also plays through Apple TV (apple.com/au/tv), and Foxtel Play works through Playstation and Xbox as well. If you have an iPad or iPhone, Apple TV imports movies and music from iTunes, as well as streaming content from entertainment apps such as Fox Sports, YouTube and Bloomberg TV. **10**

fine prints

A COURSE OF STUDY AT ISCD LED SHELLY ACLAND-GOBEN TO CHANNEL A LOVE FOR ALL THINGS RETRO AND CREATE TEXTILES LABEL SALISBURY ROAD



SHELLY'S PATH TO CREATIVE SUCCESS

Current occupation: Owner of textiles and homewares company Salisbury Road. For details, visit salisburyroad.com.au.

Courses studied: Certificate IV in Design and a Surface Design Diploma at ISCD.

Previous occupation: Clinical psychologist.

THE KEY TO REALISING YOUR CREATIVE GOALS

ISCD general manager Lucy Sutherland says the school's strong industry connections and flexible study options are integral to helping students achieve their goals. "Whether students attend our North Sydney or Melbourne CBD campus or study by distance, everyone receives the support they need to realise their potential," she says. ISCD can also help students with the tools and resources to secure a job in the design industry or establishing their own business.

A clinical psychologist and mother of two, Shelly Acland-Goben planned to satisfy her creative side later in life. "I was always interested in design but had relegated it to a hobby," says Shelly, who is a recent graduate of the International School of Colour+Design (ISCD). "It's quite a reality check to now be one of those graduates with my own design business." Here, she tells what she learned at ISCD.

Why did you choose ISCD? I'd seen it advertised and then did a short weekend workshop. I came away with a beautiful moodboard and was determined to learn more about colour and design.

What valuable things did you learn while you were at ISCD? How to respond to a design brief right through to presenting a final series of designs.

How did your time at ISCD help you get where you are now? It convinced me I could do it! Towards the end of the diploma course, I knew I wanted to produce my own Scandi-inspired range of wallpaper and fabric. Now, my 'Retro Icons' wallpaper collection is distributed by Emily Ziz Style Studio. The designs, including one featuring retro caravans, have also been screen-printed on fabric and made into cushions, aprons, tote bags and more.



If you're passionate about colour, design and styling, and want to change your life or career, join ISCD and start achieving your creative goals. Enrolments are open for the February course intake, as well as for colour and styling workshops. To find out more about your study options at ISCD, call (02) 8355 3838 or visit iscd.edu.au.



toast of the town

This toaster (\$199) in Lucite Green is from the collaboration between Marc Newson and Sunbeam. See how to win a prize pack on page 153.

COLOUR CODE The iconic KitchenAid stand mixer now comes in this sparkling Sea Glass tone. \$899, visit kitchenaid.com.au for info.



3 GREAT FINDS

'Inception' dish rack by Luca Nichetto, \$150, Seletti, seletti.com.au.

'Aurea' drying rack by Ernest Perera, €49.50, Amør De Madre, amordemadre.com.

Bodum 'Bistro' drying mat, \$19, Peters Of Kensington, petersofkensington.com.au.

KITCHEN NEWS

what's cooking

Treat the hub of your home to new appliances and accessories

EDITED BY DANIELLE SELIG & MATILDA DUFFECY

MY KITCHEN...



Chloe Matters
Co-director,
TomMarkHenry

My kitchen is a place of...

Congregation. It's the heart of my home

whether I'm alone or with other people.

In my kitchen, I couldn't live without...

A big island bench with a beautiful stone top – you can't go past the look and feel of natural stone. Integrated appliances and ample storage are also essential.

On my kitchen wishlist are... All of Miele's appliances – they are aesthetically pleasing and incredible functionality-wise. I'm also dying for a matte-black Zip tap – could you complain about instant boiling and sparkling water?

The most overlooked design element of a kitchen is... Marrying form and function.

Storage is key in the right areas and so is ample bench space and powerpoints. It's so important to understand how someone uses a kitchen before designing it.

To see Chloe's work, visit tommarkhenry.com.



TOO EASY

If you're unsure about your kitchen design, get Cantilever Interiors to install the K2 – a kitchen that can be tailored to your space. Prices start at \$45k, cantileverinteriors.com.



For inspiring kitchen style ideas, visit insideout.com.au/renovations/kitchen.

Your holiday colouring book

HOMELIFE
HOLIDAY COLOURING BOOK

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Colour Away

TAKE TIME OUT
and colour your way to
CREATIVITY

Issue No 2

ON SALE NOW!

GO BOLD

This woollen and cotton pom-pom blanket is made using traditional Moroccan craftsmanship. Toss one onto your bed for a touch of the exotic. From \$285; for info, visit barefootgypsy.com.au.

mosaic muse

These 'Cube' tiles from Classic Ceramics combine two timeless looks: marble and geometric forms. From \$500/sqm - visit classicc ceramics.com.au.

BED & BATH NEWS

peace & quiet

All the latest essentials to help shape your relaxation space

EDITED BY DANIELLE SELIG & BELINDA KEMP

HIGHEST CALIBRE Sussex's sleek tapware range is easily customisable, with 30 different finishes on offer. Prices from \$300 to \$1500, visit candana.com.au.

MY BATHROOM...



Rachel Nolan
Architect,
Kennedy
Nolan

My bathroom
is a place of...
Family activity

- it may well be time to lock them out!

My bathroom luxuries are... A generous shower and Nesti Dante soap, particularly the fig and almond.

Are you a shower or bath person? Definitely shower - too time-poor to be hanging about in the bath! A morning shower gives me an opportunity to get my thoughts in order.

What aspect of bathroom design do people too often overlook? Lighting and ventilation options. Task lighting is a must but the option to have something more gentle is very compelling and easy to achieve. A dimmer switch in the bathroom goes a long way. And I probably don't have to expound the merits of fresh air!

Visit kennedynolan.com.au.

3 GREAT FINDS

'Basket' bedhead in Peach.
\$329/double, The Family Love Tree, thefamilylovetree.com.au.

'Piper' leather bedhead in Trench. \$1470/queen, Heatherly Design, heatherlydesign.com.au.

'Lean-To' rounded bedhead in Matte Black. \$499/single, Citta Design, cittadesign.com.

light up

The eye-catching new accessories collection from Pittella will add flair to your bathroom. This unique piece is the 'K5121' wall light (\$325). For more info, visit pittella.com.

For inspiring bathroom style ideas, visit insideout.com.au/renovations/bathroom.



Let's address the elephant in the room.

Elephants have amazing memories but for many of us, our memory & brain function can be seriously affected by Alzheimer's.

In fact, Alzheimer's can be fatal.

We don't know what causes it and there is currently no cure.
But you can help change that.

To donate or start your fundraiser, go to
www.rememberdecember.com.au

Together, let's help our researchers at NeuRA

Make Alzheimer's a distant memory.

REMEMBER DECEMBER

The Daily Telegraph

The Sunday Telegraph

THE AUSTRALIAN



FOXTEL

MCN
MultiChannelNetwork

Bake & Win



Get baking in the Christmas Cookie Competition for your chance to win 1 of 8 prize packs worth over \$600 each!

Simply share pictures of your cookie creations on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook using #WesternStarCookies to win in this year's cookie extravaganza! Go to taste.com.au/cookies for more baking and decorating ideas, competition terms and conditions, and to see all the entries so far. Entries close 21 December 2015.



Win
1 of 8 Breville
prize packs worth
over \$600 each

Christmas cookies

250g Western Star Chef's Choice Premium
Cultured Unsalted Butter, chilled & chopped
3 cups plain flour
1 cup icing sugar mixture
1 egg
1 tablespoon milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Place butter, flour and icing sugar in a food processor. Process until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add egg, milk and vanilla extract. Process until mixture just comes together.
2. Turn onto a lightly floured surface. Knead gently until smooth. Divide mixture in half.

Shape into 2 discs. Wrap in plastic wrap.
Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

3. Preheat oven to 170°C/150°C fan-forced.
Line 4 baking trays with baking paper. Roll 1 dough disc between 2 sheets of baking paper until 5mm thick. Using cookie cutters, cut shapes from dough, re-rolling and cutting dough scraps. Place on prepared baking trays, 2cm apart. Bake, 1 tray at a time, for 12 minutes or until pale golden. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

*It's not
Christmas
without...*



The 8 Breville prize packs include
a NEW Boss to Go personal blender
and a Kitchen Wizz 11 food
processor, worth \$629.90 each.
Total prize pool over \$5,000!

sharemystyle

show us your home & win!

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We love seeing your home style – your pic could even be featured in the magazine

This month, we're on the hunt for kitchens – hubs of the home that showcase your personal style. Start tagging and sharing shots with us and you could win a fantastic prize!



Don't forget to tag us @insideoutmag to be eligible to win!

how to enter



Share a pic of your kitchen, using both the hashtag **#sharemystylekitchen** and the tag **@insideoutmag** on Instagram or Twitter

This month, you could win a Marc Newson kettle and toaster, plus a Torino espresso machine and grinder, valued at \$2395, thanks to Sunbeam (sunbeam.com.au)

WIN!



Sunbeam

PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) HAYLEY KESSNER. ENTRIES OPEN AT 00:01 AEDT ON 26/11/15 AND CLOSE AT 23:59 AEDT ON 16/12/15. OPEN TO AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER ONLY. ONE WINNER WILL BE DETERMINED AT 14:00 AEDT ON 21/12/15 AT NEWSJFMEDIA PTY LTD, LEVEL 1, 2 HOLT STREET, SURRY HILLS, NSW 2010. WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA THEIR PERSONAL INSTAGRAM OR TWITTER HANDLE. TOTAL PRIZE POOL VALUED AT \$2,395.00. FOR FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS, VISIT INSIDEOUTCOM.AU AND SEARCH FOR 'TERMS DECEMBER ISSUE'. PRIVACY POLICY IS AVAILABLE AT NEWSCORP.AU/PRIVACY.COM

DREAMING OF A RENO?

BEFORE

DREAM IT. DESIGN IT. DO IT.
insideout.com.au



out

cover up

Take the sting out of the sun without losing the light

A slatted timber canopy over an outdoor entertaining area softens the strength of the sun's rays while still keeping the breeze and light coming through. This zone by Nathan Burkett of Nathan Burkett Design showcases a cantilevered structure with timber slats. This refined look suits the home's contemporary style and gives the dining area a more intimate feel. Turn the page for more on this designer garden.



A photograph of a modern outdoor courtyard. A large, dark wood pergola with a striped awning extends over the space. Below it, a dining table with a wooden top and metal frame is surrounded by wire mesh chairs. A glass railing with metal posts runs along the edge of the courtyard. In the background, there are lush green plants and a concrete wall. The ground is paved with large, light-colored tiles. The overall atmosphere is clean, modern, and serene.

small change

Nestled in the shadow of a new
Melbourne extension, this yard
benefits from an elegant approach

WORDS KATHERINE CHATFIELD PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN WHEATLEY



When a large contemporary extension on a period home leaves just a small outdoor space, the garden design needs careful consideration. Landscape architect Nathan Burkett was tasked with transforming this Melbourne garden, creating an impressive entertaining haven that matched the modern feel of the new addition.

The design includes a lap pool that frames the back boundary of the home, a paved outdoor entertaining area running alongside the living room and kitchen, and a decked outdoor seating area with a barbecue and raised garden beds. "I believe a garden should have elements that encourage you to interact with the surroundings," says Nathan. "We wanted to create areas that would allow for contemplation and relaxation. We have incorporated sight, touch and smell into the design of the space."

Working with the small L-shaped zone did present some design challenges. "We designed a pergola to cantilever over the dining area



old and new A traditional look meets a more modern style with *Ficus microcarpa* 'Hillii' on one side of the pool, and slender weaver bamboo lining the other boundary.

so it doesn't take up valuable space with vertical posts or poles," says Nathan. "We planted on the boundaries of the home, so as not to clutter the garden, and existing walls were retained and rendered to create a dark moody backdrop without overcrowding the space."

To complement the luxe home renovation and extension, the team from Nathan Burkett Design created bespoke furniture pieces for the garden, including the large barbecue and statement curved garden bed wall. They also designed and manufactured the striking tall steel pots and the eight-seater timber-topped dining table. "The table is made from spotted gum and includes a built-in herb garden as its centrepiece," says Nathan. "This was done to bring some softness into the alfresco dining area." Another nod to the contemporary feel of the property are the 'Volley Rocker' chairs from Tait, that sit on the deck for a comfortable spot to relax with a book or a drink.

Surrounding the table are 'Jak' chairs, also from Tait, which were chosen by Nathan for "their contemporary form and beautiful straight lines that complement the garden". The metallic pots behind the table feature curved hedges of bright, leafy English box or common box (*Buxus sempervirens*). "We chose this species because it clips well into any shape and is suited to many situations from shady to part

sun," says Nathan. "We've also used it to help bring a bit of colour and texture to the space."

The cantilevered slatted pergola allows the deck and seating areas to be bathed in soft warm light. Nathan chose plants that enhanced and fit into this environment. "We used Japanese maples to filter dappled light throughout the garden," he says. "They work best in well-protected situations with some shade. Mother-in-law's tongue, buxus and bamboo are all used to add colour, mood and texture."

Many of the plant choices for the garden were influenced by the property's south-westerly aspect, and even though the plants used aren't natives, they are well adapted to the changeable Melbourne climate. Originally the soil on the site was very clay-like, however "this didn't affect our choice of plants as all the garden beds are raised," says Nathan. "We filled them with premium blended organic loam [a soil composed mostly of sand and silt, with a small amount of clay]. By doing this it meant we had access to a wide range of plants, so we could choose exactly the right things for the garden."

Scent was another important consideration for the garden, giving this outdoor courtyard a feeling of vibrancy and interest. Lemon-scented eucalyptus (*Corymbia citriodora*), Mexican orange



Ashlar pattern paving creates a sense of space, while also contrasting with the rich timber-clad garden beds and curved garden bed wall. Shapely mother-in-law's tongue is a hardy choice, while elegant Japanese maples are paired with fragrant gardenia for a lush green feel.

“We planted on the boundaries of the home, so as not to clutter the garden”

NATHAN BURKETT, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

blossom (*Choisya ternata*) and sweet orange trees (*Citrus sinensis*) blend together to create a fresh and summery sweet fragrance.

One of the most interesting elements of this backyard is using hardscaping to highlight sculptural plants. Around the pool boundary, the slatted fence is matched by fast-growing bamboo (*Bambusa textilis gracilis*), a great screening plant for a small space. “It’s suitable for a narrow garden bed because it will be lush and thick, but not too wide,” says Nathan. “The underplanting beneath the bamboo is star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*), which is a good groundcover for any hedge and works well in many situations.”

With this same approach to blending the hardscaping with planting in mind, Nathan used several different plants behind the bench seats. As well as the Japanese maples, these planters also host gardenia ‘Florida’. “This helps bring a beautiful fragrance to the garden,” says Nathan. “It’s a good low-to-the-ground shrub which we have used for underplanting.” In the same beds, the hardy century plant (*Agave attenuata*) “was included to add interest and texture to the beds”. This attention to detail has helped to create a garden that is a feast for all the senses and is the ideal spot for a bright Sunday afternoon. **10**

For more on Nathan’s work, visit nathanburkett.com.au.

This raised deck opposite the pool is an outdoor entertaining dream, with a barbecue and plenty of room for guests to mingle in dappled sunlight. The sculptural leaves of the century plant complement the zone's striking curves.

curvy number This tiled garden bed wall acts as a counterpoint to the garden and pool area's straight lines, offering playful geometrics with its hexagon tiles.

“We wanted to create areas that would allow for contemplation and relaxation”

NATHAN BURKETT, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

The Home Team



The Biggest Challenge Yet!



Watch our team transform this 1960s brick veneer renovator's delight over 10 big weeks



There's something for everyone as this house is renovated from front-to-back with DIY tips and style inspiration for every room and outdoor area

The Team: Julia Green, James Bawden, Leah McLeod, Anthony Scott

Starts December 2015 on TEN & proudly presented by...



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TAXIBOX

3 GREAT FINDS

Brass watering can,
€472, Lee West Objects,
leewestobjects.com.

Klong 'Svante' brass
watering jug, \$138, Funkis,
funkis.com.

Kontextur 'X3' solid
polished brass watering can,
\$180, Mr Kitly, mrkitly.com.au.

GARDEN NEWS

outdoor living

Enjoying the sunshine is even easier with the latest accessories

EDITED BY DANIELLE SELIG & VIRGINIA JEN

GO NATIVE Bring a chic Australiana look to your yard with this 'Firewheel Earth' outdoor cushion (\$119) from utopiagoods.com.

TIDAL WAVE

Celebrated local designer Trent Jansen has brought his ingenuity to outdoor furniture for Tait. The 'Tidal' collection is his "stylised interpretation of a wave". From \$670 - visit madebytait.com.au.

Q+A WITH...



Matt Hook Director, Outdoor Establishments

A garden is a place to... Retreat. It should offer intimate and

private spaces to relax in. For me, a garden also offers a sense of achievement. I take pride in knowing that I was able to create something that is living and constantly changing.

Any tips for small-space planting?

Get adventurous! I like to fuse multiple plant species to create an assortment of colours, textures and shapes. One of my favourite combinations is a fine grass, such as *Zoysia tenuifolia*, teamed with Persian shield (*Strobilanthes gossypinus*), Agave desmettiana and blue chalk sticks (*Senecio mandraliscae*).

What will you be doing in the garden

come December? I'll be out in the garden with friends and family making the most of the longer days and warmer nights. It is the perfect time of the year to fire up that barbecue and stock the outdoor bar fridge. Visit outdoorestablishments.com.



For inspiring outdoor living ideas, visit insideout.com.au/renovations/outdoors-pool.

extras

BRIGHT IDEAS FOR YOU AND YOUR HOME



SMEG Curvaceous and bursting with personality, the award-winning Smeg '50s-style stand mixer is a gorgeous addition to the kitchen. Sturdy and stylish, the 800-watt direct drive motor makes light work of everything from whipping delicate eggwhites to mixing homemade bread or pizza dough. Referring to an instruction manual could be a thing of the past with the handy quick-guide symbols. The stand mixer comes in a variety of colours. To view the range, visit smeg50style.com.au



DYSON Keep your cool as the temperature rises this spring and summer with the Dyson 'Cool'™ range of quiet yet powerful bladeless fans. The collection includes the 'AM06' desk fan, which is ideal for personal cooling; the 'AM07' tower fan, which is great for cooling large rooms; and the 'AM08' pedestal fan, which offers the flexibility to suit a range of cooling needs. Each of the fans produce a smooth, powerful airflow and has a built-in sleep timer. For more information, visit dyson.com.au/fans



FREEDOM Add sparkle to your festive table with the beautiful Christmas range at Freedom. From polka dots and geometric patterns to tableware marked with festive sayings, this range is a fun way to celebrate. Plates, bowls and mugs accentuated with real gold are complemented by cutlery in gold tones and gold-rimmed or gold-flecked glasses, flutes and martini glasses. There are decorations, wrapping paper and candles to fit the theme, too. For details, visit freedom.com.au



ISCD If you are passionate about colour and decorating, check out the iSTYLE online courses at iscd. Learn how to use colour to reflect your personal style in your home with the iSTYLE Colour course. Find out about decorating styles and how to analyse a room's requirements together with the importance of tone and texture in design. You can complete the course online in your own time, and it costs \$199. For more information and to start the course, visit iscd.edu.au/courses/istyle-online



BOCONCEPT Take a seat in the comfy new 'Carmo' sofa (from \$2839) designed by Anders Nørgaard for BoConcept. Featuring a cubistic minimalist design, the sofa is completely modular, allowing you to create the shape you want for your space. Choose from a huge range of fabrics and leathers for a custom sofa. You may even decide to choose fabric seats and a leather feature module. There's an online 3D furniture creator to explore different options. For more details, visit boconcept.com.au



COLORBOND There are so many decisions to make when you are building or renovating a house. If you're looking for advice, Colorbond Steel's *Create* brochure is a great place to start. This helpful brochure outlines the trends in home design and how to build a place to suit your lifestyle. There are good ideas for extending your space and how to use colour in a clever way to integrate your indoor and outdoor areas. To download the brochure and find out more, visit colourbond.com



AIM HIGH

The interiors are by Studio Y and the ambitions are great at Melbourne's Lûmé. The restaurant currently offers a 20-course degustation. Head to restaurantlume.com for more information.

FOOD NEWS

wine & dine

Designer bars and restaurants, insider culinary advice and hot new products **WORDS LEE TRAN LAM**



el mexicano

Mexico From The Inside Out (\$75, Phaidon) is a colourful culinary trip with the country's renowned chef and author Enrique Olvera.



HOT SPARK Automata is one of Sydney's best new restaurants. Clayton Wells is the creative force behind the inspired menu. Visit automata.com.au.

Q+A WITH...



Annabel Crabb
TV host,
writer and
cookbook
author

You worked with your friend Wendy on your new cookbook. Does your friendship go back a long way?

Wendy and I both grew up in South Australian sheep-farming families. We're both obsessed with crumble toppings, plus her parents grew almonds and mine grew apricots, so those things tend to sneak into our recipes a lot.

In the book, what's the easiest recipe to travel with?

There's a fabulous dish that's so foolproof and front-of-mind for me, because I make it three times a week: mushrooms with miso butter *en papillote*. Bake for 10 minutes and you have the most delicious light meal.

The book draws on communicating with food. Is there one recipe that suits any occasion?

My mother's spicy nuts Wendy cut a swathe through her kids' 'bring-a-plate' trivia night the quizmaster actually stopped the quiz to ask who brought the nuts.

Special Delivery (\$39.99, Murdoch Books).



3 GREAT FINDS

'Hex' party plates, \$14.95/assorted set of 12, Lark, larkstore.com.au.

Laura Blythman party plates, \$6.95/set of 10, Lark, larkstore.com.au.

Black custom paper plate, from US\$15/set of 10, Papel & Co., papelnco.etsy.com.



Ending your year in Hobart? You'll eat well at The Taste of Tasmania festival, thetasteoftasmania.com.au.

stockists

Here are all the numbers and websites you need to get shopping! Don't be misled by suppliers listing Sydney or Melbourne phone numbers – they are often head offices or distributors who can find a retailer in your area

a-e

Ahoy Trader (02) 6680 8216, ahoytrader.com. **Andrea Brugi** andreabrugi.com. **Armadillo&Co** (02) 9698 4043, armadillo-co.com. **B&B Italia** bebitalia.com. **Cafe Culture + Insitu** (02) 9699 8577, cafecultureinsitu.com.au. **Chippendale Restorations** (02) 9810 6066, chippendalerestorations.com.au. **Citta Design** cittadesign.com. **Classic Ceramics** (02) 9560 6555, classicceramics.com.au. **Country Road** 1800 801 911, countryroad.com.au. **Cult** 1300 768 626, cultdesign.com.au. **Cultiver** cultiver.com. **CDK Stone** (03) 8552 6000, cdkstone.com.au. **Coastal Living** (03) 5984 5480, coastalliving.net.au. **Cavalier** **Bremworth** 1800 251 172, cavbrem.com.au.

d-f

De Fazio (03) 9387 2300, defazio.com.au. **Fenton & Fenton** (03) 9533 2323, fentonandfenton.com.au. **Fictional Objects** fictionalobjects.com. **Fred International** (02) 9310 3263, fredishere.com.au. **Freedom** 1300 135 588, freedom.com.au.

g-i

Garden Life (02) 8399 0666, gardenlife.com. **Gold Frankincense + Myrrh** gfmchild.com. **Gubi** gubi.dk. **H&M Home** 1800 828 002, hm.com/au/department/HOME. **Horseland** 1800 021 980, horseland.com.au. **Mitchell Road Antique & Design Centre** (02) 9698 0907, mitchellroad.com.au. **Hush** studio-hush.com. **IKEA** ikea.com.au.

j-m

Kido Store 1300 115 436, kidostore.com. **King Living** 1300 135 464, kingliving.com.au. **Lark** larkstore.com.au. **Lightly** (03) 9417 2440, lightly.com.au. **Major Minor Sydney** majorminorsydney.com. **Marimekko** (02) 9299 0372, marimekko.com. **Mark Tuckey**

marktuckey.com.au. **Matt Irwin** mattirwin.com. **Miele** 1300 464 353, miele.com.au.

n-p

Olle Eksell olleeksell.se. **Pampa** pampa.com.au. **Pavement** (03) 9580 6000, pavementbrands.com. **Pony Rider** (02) 8911 3518, ponyrider.com.au. **Poppies For Grace** (03) 9761 4734, poppiesforgrace.com. **Porcelanosa** porcelanosa.com. **Porter's Paints** 1800 656 664, porterspains.com. **Printspace** (03) 9008 4458, printspace.com.au.

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QueenSo queenso.com. **Rörstrand** rorstrand.com. **Schots** 1300 463 353, schots.com.au. **Seasonal Concepts** seasonalconcepts.com.au. **Steele Canvas** (02) 9550 6550, steelecanvas.com.au. **String Furniture** string.se.

t-z

Tait (03) 9419 7484, madebytait.com.au. **The Shelley Pantan Store** (03) 9533 9003, shelleypanton.com. **Thonet** 1800 800 777,



thonet.com.au. **Turner & Lane** (03) 9821 0012, turnerlane.com.au. **West Elm** 1800 239 516, westelm.com.au. **Zilvi** zilvi.com.au. **Zip** 1800 424 344, zipwater.com. **Zuster** (03) 9427 7188, zuster.com.au.

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NAB (National Australia Bank) nab.com.au. **Nespresso** nespresso.com. **Sheridan** sheridan.com.au. **Président Cheese** presidentcheese.com.au. **Rachel's Gourmet Yoghurt** rachelsyoghurts.com.au. **Royal Doulton** royaldoulton.com.au. **Scenic** scenic.com.au. **Temple & Webster** templeandwebster.com.au. **The Natural Floorcovering Centre** naturalfloor.com.au. **Warwick Fabrics** warwick.com.au. **Zanui** zanui.com.au.

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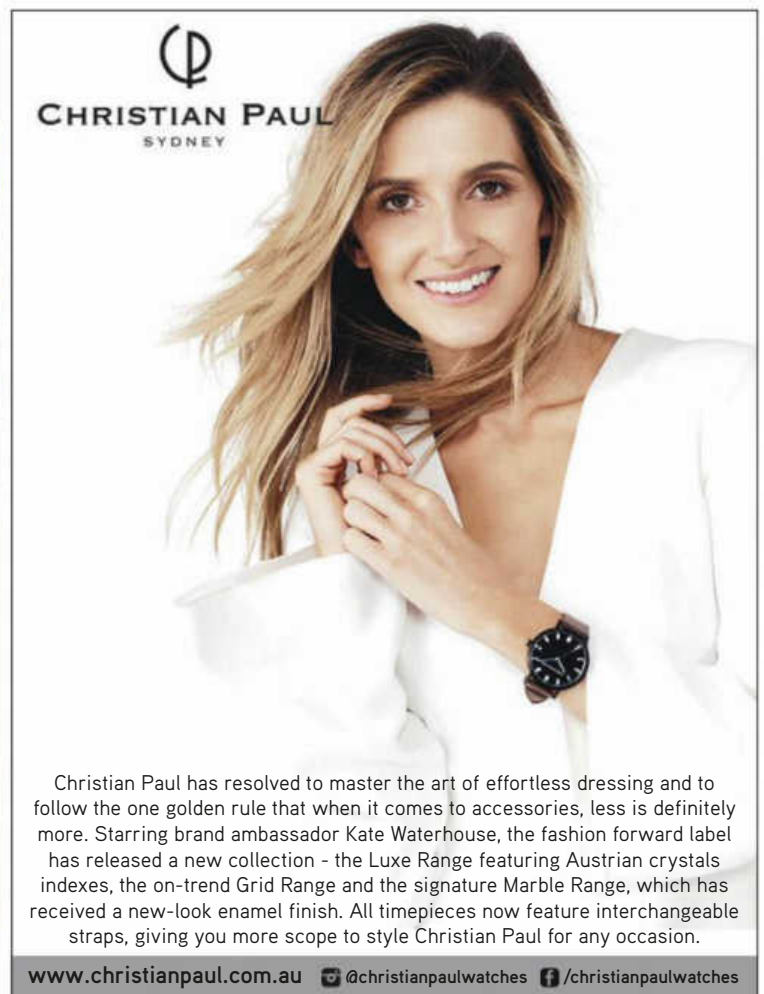
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Christian Paul has resolved to master the art of effortless dressing and to follow the one golden rule that when it comes to accessories, less is definitely more. Starring brand ambassador Kate Waterhouse, the fashion forward label has released a new collection - the Luxe Range featuring Austrian crystals indexes, the on-trend Grid Range and the signature Marble Range, which has received a new-look enamel finish. All timepieces now feature interchangeable straps, giving you more scope to style Christian Paul for any occasion.

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Ask Megsy

Our Agony Aunt Meg Mason dishes out somewhat questionable style and decorating advice to would-be DIY renovators

My family goes all out on gifts at Christmas, but I'm saving for a flat and don't want to overspend on stuff they don't even need. How can I manage the annual buying frenzy?

Rosie, Coogee, NSW

Christmas. Is there a more taxing time of year, Rosie, for those of us forced to weigh the needs of loved ones against our own moral objection to excess and an iron-clad savings goal? No, not when the word 'need' applies to an aromatherapy foot spa which will have attracted three views and zero watchers on eBay by New Year's.

Sometimes it feels as though we ought to cut out the middle man and simply drive a boot-load of brand new swag straight to landfill, or pop an actual pound of flesh in with that Club Penguin pyjama onesie our nephew insisted on, yet come the actual day of December 25, seems insufficiently thrilled by.

That was the nub of the epiphany I had while scouring a crowded mall for a must-have personal chocolate fountain back on Christmas Eve 2012. The futility, Rosie! The rampant consumerism! The overly punitive fine for parking in a loading dock! (Apparently leaving your hazards on makes doing so neither legal nor 'festive-looking' as I argued to the magistrate and, ever since, I've devoted myself to curbing seasonal excess, for both philosophical and court-ordered reasons.)

I was naive to begin with, simply suggesting via a cheery PS to an existing reply-all email we had going re: divvying up the catering, that this year we try a names-in-a-hat scheme for gifts.

By the time Re: re; Fwd: Fwd: Ham Ideas had gone viral within my own family, respondents were referring to me openly as Kross Kringle, Grinchybags and, most hurtfully

from my own husband, Secret Satan. Now, I take a more stealth approach to festive frugality, and I offer you these tips FOC.

Homemade gifts are the obvious go-to. Do you knit? Sew? Decoupage, ironically or for real? I've started turning my skill as a frequent texter into thoughtful prose poems which, at market rates, would be worth considerably more than the \$15pp cap that drew so much ire from the original recipients of Ham Ideas.

'Vouchers' for acts of kindness are not only free, but allow you to be quite pointed with the services offered. Awaiting my mother this year, for example, is a coupon that 'entitles the bearer to have that sh*tfight of a plastics drawer vigorously culled by moi'.

Consider charity gifts, too, although not for children as I learnt the hard way last year. My young niece basically ruined everyone's Christmas after it became clear that the goat I'd got her from the Oxfam Unwrapped catalogue would never be pushed

around in a doll's pram or wrangled easily into a baby bonnet, since it was unfortunately in the Sudan.

Lastly, think about affordable gifts with a naturally short shelf life. Things that are lovely to unwrap on the day but won't see out the year. A hamper of specialty cheeses with a near use-by date, baby clothes already on the small side, or a subscription to this very magazine which, as it turns out, has been coming to your home address for 11 months. Goodness knows you deserve a treat, after all that hard saving.

I've offered to host the family at Christmas, even though I live in a two-bed unit. Am I being too ambitious? *Caroline, Seabrook, Vic*

Yes. Utterly. But only in keeping with the festive season, when usually sensible people do mad things involving roulade, felt antlers, trestle tables, gin or all of the above. Good luck, and DM me *vis* folding chairs. **10**



revive the... mismatched tree decs A forgotten *objet* ripe for resurgence

Coordinating tree ornaments might win on aesthetic grounds, but there's nothing like a box of homemade glitter-and-macaroni trinkets to remind family members of precious times past and why everyone thought your sister would never get her HSC.

Stay tuned for more of Meg's invaluable renovating tips in our next issue.

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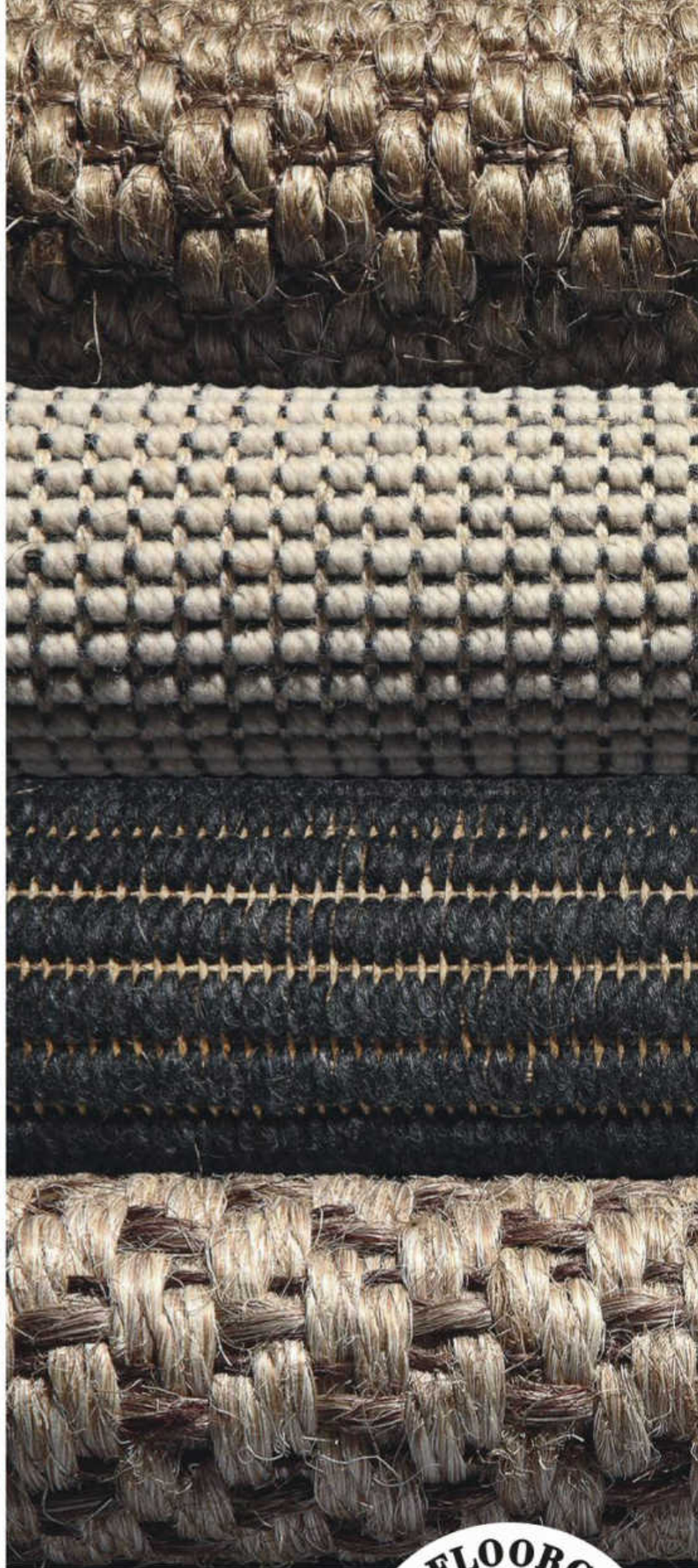
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